



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

Re: Notice of Violation  
Auglaize County  
Thieman Stamping Company  
NPDES Permit

March 6, 2013

Mr. Lindsay Miller  
Environmental Coordinator  
Thieman Stamping Company  
P.O. Box 45  
New Bremen, Ohio 45869

Dear Mr. Miller:

On February 14, 2013, an operation and maintenance inspection was made of the wastewater treatment facility serving the Thieman Stamping Company. The facility is located at 05140 Dicke Road, German Township, Auglaize County. You and Mr. Andrew Nieport were present and provided operational information during the inspection. Our observations can be found on the enclosed inspection form. At the time of inspection, the discharge to Carter Creek was clear, colorless, and had no noticeable odor.

During the inspection, we discussed the wastewater treatment plant's (WWTP) ammonia effluent non-compliance. You indicated that you were speaking with an outside consultant who had mentioned temperature may be affecting ammonia performance. In our experience, we typically see higher effluent ammonia in colder months, which is why most National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits have lower summer and higher winter effluent limits for ammonia. It has been recommended in the past to try to keep as much heat in the WWTP as possible to aid the bacteria's de-nitrification process. Some entities have accomplished this by attaching foam insulation to the inside of tank grates or putting a cover over the entire tank to help prevent freezing.

You also mentioned that company cleaning personnel may have dumped some concentrated cleaning agents and that they may have passed through the WWTP. If that is the case, you may want to consider obtaining a small amount of mixed-liquor from another WWTP to reseed the bacteria in your WWTP. If you choose to obtain mixed-liquor from another WWTP, consider obtaining it from a WWTP that does not receive significant industrial wastewater flows. The types of bacteria in that wastewater would likely differ from the bacteria in your wastewater and may not provide the desired results.

Mr. Lindsay Miller  
March 6, 2013  
Page Two

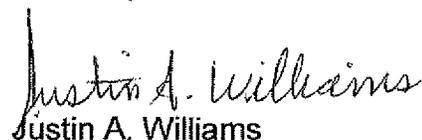
This letter also serves as a Notice of Violation (NOV). We are in receipt of your self-monitoring reports covering the months of July through December 2012. Our review indicates violations of the conditions of your NPDES permit. The specific instances of non-compliance are enclosed on a separate sheet. We have received Mr. Andrew Nieport's email responses dated September 17, 2012, October 15, 2012, and January 14, 2013, for the enclosed violations and require no further information at this time.

Please be advised that failure to comply with the effluent limitations and/or monitoring requirements, including adequate laboratory controls, appropriate quality assurance procedures, and records retention, as specified in your Part III-General Conditions of your NPDES permit may be cause for enforcement action pursuant to Ohio Revised Code (ORC) Chapter 6111. If these violations continue to occur and if satisfactory progress is not made, it may be necessary to initiate enforcement action to achieve compliance.

The Ohio EPA strongly encourages pollution prevention as the preferred approach for waste management. The first priority of pollution prevention is to eliminate the generation of wastes and pollutants at the source (source reduction). For those wastes or pollutants that are generated, the second priority is to recycle or reuse them in an environmentally sound manner. You can benefit economically, help preserve the environment, and improve your public image by implementing pollution prevention programs. Information about Ohio EPA's Office of Compliance Assistance & Pollution Prevention can be found on Ohio EPA's Website at <http://epa.ohio.gov/ocapp> or by calling (614) 644 – 3469.

If you have any questions or comments, please call me at (419) 373 – 3022.

Sincerely,



Justin A. Williams  
Environmental Specialist II  
Division of Surface Water

/jlm

Enclosures

pc: Mr. Michael Geib

ec: Inspection Tracking



State of Ohio Environmental Protection Agency  
Northwest District Office

NPDES Compliance Inspection Report  
Semi-Public Sewage Disposal Inspection Form

Section A: National Data System Coding					
Permit #	NPDES#	Month/Day/Year	Inspection Type	Inspector	Facility Type
2IN00164	OH0122289	02/14/2013	C	S	2

Section B: Facility Data		
Name and Location of Facility Inspected	Entry Time	Permit Effective Date
Thieman Stamping Company 05140 Dicke Road P.O. box 45 New Bremen, OH 45869	11:00 am	January 1, 2010
	Exit Time	Permit Expiration Date
	11:30 pm	December 31, 2014
Name(s) and Title(s) of On-Site Representatives	Phone Number(s)	
Mr. Lindsay Miller - Environmental Coordinator Mr. Andrew Nieport - Maintenance Personnel	(419) 629 - 2612	
Name(s), Address and Title(s) of Operator of Record	Phone Number(s)	
Mr. Michael Geib - WWTP Operator P.O. Box 246 New Knoxville, OH 45871	(419) 753 - 2160	
Name, Address and Title of Responsible Official	Phone Number	
Mr. Kurt Zweibel - Maintenance Supervisor Thieman Stamping Company 05140 Dicke Road P.O. box 45 New Bremen, OH 45869	(419) 629 - 2612	

Ohio EPA Inspector	Ohio EPA Reviewer
<i>Justin A. Williams</i> 02/27/13	<i>Thomas Poffenbarger</i> 2/28/13
Justin A. Williams Environmental Specialist II Division of Surface Water Northwest District Office	Thomas Poffenbarger, P.E. Water Quality Engineer II/Unit Supervisor Division of Surface Water Northwest District Office

Average Daily Design Flow:	<b>2,000 Gallons/Day</b>
Plant Serves:	60 Employees
Average Daily Flow: (Period of Review):	<b>899 Gallons/Day (01/12 – 01/13)</b>
Method of flow monitoring:	<b>Estimate from pump run time meters</b>
Type of alarms for plant:	<b>Pump stations have high water alarms</b>

### Pretreatment

Type of Pretreatment: **Trash Trap**  
 Does the Trash Trap need pumped: **No**  
 Maintenance of pretreatment components is: **Good**

**Comments/Status:**

Trash trap pumped as needed. EQ basin is aerated.

### Secondary Treatment (Aeration)

Color of sludge: **Light Brown**  
 Quality of Sludge: **Thin**  
 Foam: **Light (white)**  
 Odor: **No objectionable odor present**

	Yes	No		Yes	No
Aeration is taking place	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Plant is septic	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Blowers are operating	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Blowers are on a timer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Skimmers are operating	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Plant is flooded	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Diffusers are operating	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Grating is present	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sludge return is operating	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			

Maintenance of aerating equipment is...**Good**

**Comments/Status:**

Contents in aeration tank were a weak brown color with white foam. RAS was weak brown. Skimmer was clear.

### Secondary Treatment (Settling)

Clarity: **Clear**  
 Condition of Weir: **Clean**  
 Weir is level: **Yes**

Effluent in weir: **Light Solids**  
 Clarifier walls need scraped: **No**

Overall maintenance of settling components is: **Good**

**Comments/Status:**

Contents in tank were turbid. Effluent was clear.

**Tertiary Treatment**

	Yes	No		Yes	No
Surface sand Filters: <b>Slow</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>None</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Distribution box operating	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Beds alternated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are filters ponding/flooding	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Beds raked	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sand filters overgrown	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Chlorination present	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
UV present	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Dechlorination present	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Overall maintenance of components is: **Good**

**Comments/Status:**

Disinfection is not used during winter months.

**Sludge Handling/Storage Disposal**

Hauler name: **Mikes Sanitation, Inc. (MSI)**  
 Disposal Site: **MSI**  
 Sludge wasted from: **Clarifier**  
 How often is sludge wasted: **As needed**  
 Sludge drying beds: **No**                      Sludge holding tank: **No**

Overall maintenance of components is: **Good**

**Comments/Status:**

**Plant Discharge**

Discharge point is a: **Stream**  
 Name of discharge point: **Carter Creek**  
 Discharge is visible: **Yes**                      Quality of Effluent: **Clear**

**Comments/Status:**

Discharge was clear, colorless, and had no noticeable odor.

[Get New Data](#)

# Violations for Thieman Stampers - July - December 2012

Permit No	Reporting Period	Station	Reporting Code	Parameter	Limit Type	Limit	Reported Value	Violation Date
2IN00164*BD	August 2012	001	00400	pH	1D Conc	6.5	6.44	8/22/2012
2IN00164*BD	September 2012	001	00530	Total Suspended Solids	30D Conc	12.0	14.	9/1/2012
2IN00164*BD	December 2012	001	00610	Nitrogen, Ammonia (NH3)	30D Conc	4.0	6.28	12/1/2012
2IN00164*BD	December 2012	001	00610	Nitrogen, Ammonia (NH3)	1D Conc	6.0	6.28	12/4/2012