



**Environmental  
Protection Agency**

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

March 11, 2013

RE: COLUMBIANA COUNTY  
CITY OF COLUMBIANA  
NPDES PERMIT NO. 3IW00022  
COLUMBIANA WTP  
43839 METZ ROAD

Mr. Lance Willard  
City Manager  
City of Columbiana  
28 West Friend St.  
Columbiana, OH 44408

Dear Mr. Willard:

On February 21, 2013, this writer conducted an inspection of City of Columbiana Water Treatment Plant located at 601 Cross Street in Columbiana, Ohio. The purpose of the inspection was to review the water pollution control facilities and evaluate compliance with the facility's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit. The following was observed at the time of the inspection:

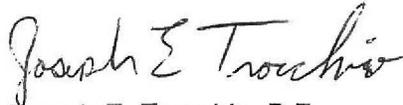
- 1) The facility consists of 9 (8 in use) raw water wells; air-stripping, solids contact basin (alum and lime addition), recarbonation, settling tank, fluoride and phosphorus addition, filtration and discharge to clearwell with chlorine addition. Sludge and filter backwash are pumped to lagoons for treatment prior to discharge to an unnamed tributary of Bull Creek. Approximately 30% of the wastewater is discharged to the City sewerage system.
- 2) At the time of the inspection, all treatment processes appeared satisfactory. The CO<sub>2</sub> generation facilities could be safety hazard (carbon monoxide) and should be monitored for employee safety. Even though the plant superintendent and staff are doing a good job maintaining and running the plant, they have to patch things together. This plant was to have been replaced roughly three years ago. Please provide this office with an updated schedule of when construction will be started and completed.
- 3) The dosing chamber for sludge wasting from the plant currently has only one pump. This does not meet the pump stations current design nor that of the Ohio EPA design criteria. The Agency has not pressed the treatment staff to repair the pump station because the Agency was assured the plant would be eliminated in the near future. If the City will not be moving forward in the very near future, this pump station should be repaired so that appropriate duplicate pumps are provided, as in all pump station.
- 4) The City did not remove sludge from the treatment lagoons in 2012. The superintendent indicated that repairs to other treatment units did not allow sufficient money in the budget for land application of sludge from the wastewater lagoons. This is not acceptable, the City, must haul sludge in a timely fashion so that capacity in the lagoons is not exceeded

or unsafe structural conditions within the pond berms is created. Sludge removal amounts are designed to prevent excess build up within the lagoons. Please respond in writing by April 8, 2013, the City's plan to correct this issue.

- 5) The wastewater treatment system effluent data was reviewed from January, 2011 through January, 2013. During this time, there were no reported violations. As stated above, the treatment plant staff does a good job maintaining the system.

Should you have any comments or concerns regarding this letter, please feel free to contact me at (330) 963-1193.

Respectfully,



Joseph E. Trocchio, P.E.  
Environmental Engineer  
Division of Surface Water

JET/cs

cc: Matt Polan, Superintendent

ec: Bob Henn, Ohio EPA, DDAGW, NEDO

File: Industrial User/Permit Compliance/City of Columbiana Water Treatment Plant.