



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

April 2, 2013

RE: GENEVA MOBILE HOME PARK  
OHIO EPA PERMIT 3PV00117  
GENEVA TWP, ASHTABULA COUNTY  
COMPLIANCE INSPECTION EVALUATION

**NOTICE OF VIOLATION**

Warren and Young PLL, Attorneys at Law  
134 West 46<sup>th</sup> Street  
P.O. Box 2300  
Ashtabula, Ohio 44005-2300

RE: Estate of Rudolf W. Herzog, dba Geneva Trailer Park  
Mr. William R. Herzog, Executor

Dear Mr. Cordell:

On March 25, 2013, the Ohio EPA Northeast District Office received a complaint from a resident at the Geneva Mobile Home Park at 4546 North Ridge Road (U.S. Route 20), Geneva Township, Ashtabula County. Specifically, the complainant indicated that sewage was backing up from their connection at Lot 17 and discharging on the ground and that the adjacent lot may be experiencing the same problem. The complainant also indicated that your office was informed of the problem on March 22, 2013, but no action had been taken to resolve the blockage. Upon receiving the complaint, I contacted your office to verify that you had been informed of the situation at which time I spoke to Ms. Teresa Watson. Ms. Watson indicated that Roto-Rooter had been contacted that morning and that she would return my call to verify that the problem had been addressed. I later contacted Ms. Watson at approximately 4:45pm that day for a status update, but she had no update.

On March 26, 2013, at approximately 8:30am, I contacted Ms. Watson to get a status update at which time she indicated that she had not heard back from Roto-Rooter, but would contact me as soon as she had. At approximately 11:30am, I spoke to one of the residents of Lot 17 who indicated that Roto-Rooter had been out to the home; however, they took no action to correct the blockage and discharges continued to occur. I then immediately contacted Ms. Watson, but had to leave a message that the back-ups were still occurring and that Roto-Rooter had not snaked the line. At 4:37pm, Ms. Watson called and left me a message asking to set up a call on March 27<sup>th</sup> between Ohio EPA and Warren and Young to discuss the matter. On March 27, 2013, at approximately 9:00, I called Ms. Watson and gave her my availability for March 27<sup>th</sup>; however, I was not contacted by your office until March 28<sup>th</sup> at 2:08pm to discuss the problems at the mobile home park. Later that afternoon, John Schmidt and I contacted you to discuss the issues and with a subsequent call, arranged for Mr. Schmidt to meet you at the facility.

On March 29, 2013, Mr. Schmidt met with you and also performed a site inspection of the facility. Present at the inspection were Mr. John Schmidt of this office, Ms. Marlene Knopsnider, the contract operator, representing Lewis Wastewater Services, and you, Mr. Stuart Cordell, representing the

Estate of Rudolf W. Herzog, Owner. Mr. Gregorio Martinez, park manager, was unavailable for the meeting and inspection. The purpose of the inspection was to discuss the issues of the illegal discharge of sewage to waters of the state and to evaluate the facility's compliance status with respect to the terms and conditions of the facility's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit. The last compliance inspection was conducted on April 11, 2012.

Mr. James Carey of Roto-Rooter was snaking the service lateral to the mobile home on Lot No. 17 at the time of Mr. Schmidt's arrival. Sewage sludge and sewage had been vacuumed from the ground and lime placed over the area to disinfect the spill area prior to Ohio EPA's arrival. Discussions with Mr. Carey indicated that water was noted as flowing freely on March 25, 2012, but he acknowledged that the line was not snaked until today. The sewer main line along the service road had been checked for flow from Lot No. 18 (upstream of Lot No. 17) earlier in the month.

With respect to the facility, the following problems were noted and need addressed:

1. The overall condition of the treatment plant during this inspection was not satisfactory. It appears that there is excessive inflow and infiltration (I/I) affecting the operation of the plant. During the inspection, the need for an I/I study of the collection system and the possible need for a flow equalization tank to keep flow from surging through the plant was discussed.
2. Several of the steel grates over the aeration tanks and clarifiers are noted in advanced deteriorated condition to the point of becoming a safety hazard. Grates not capable of supporting the weight of plant personnel must be replaced.
3. The content of the aeration tank had a medium brown color, earthy odor, and good mixing. There appeared to be excessive foam in the aeration tanks. The cause of the excessing foaming should be investigated and appropriate correction action taken. Sludge returns were a medium brown color. The blowers were cycled and found in operating condition. The alarms were tested and found in operating condition.
4. The surface of the clarifier contained a fair amount of scum, but was otherwise clear and both the effluent weir and skimmer were functioning properly. Effluent weirs and channels need cleaned. This should be performed weekly.
5. Surface sand filter dosing pumps cycled and were found in operating condition. The alarms could not be tested and their operating condition is unknown. The alarms were tested in May 2012 and found operational. The alarms need to be fixed.
6. The north surface sand filter was in operation, with the south bed raked and prepared for operation. The north sand filter was not in acceptable condition, with the sand filter flooded due to an accumulation of algae and sludge. The distribution arm had fallen off the distribution line and was found lying in the flooded sand bed. The effluent discharged to the sand filter during the inspection was clear and free of color and turbidity; however, the wastewater did not percolate freely through the sand indicating that the beds were clogged. A significant amount of raked sludge was noted around the perimeter of each bed. This should be removed and containerized for off-site disposal.
7. The chlorination tank was noted as needing cleaned. The tank was last cleaned on May 21, 2012. The tank must be cleaned and stocked with the appropriate chemicals prior to

commencement of the disinfection season. The dechlorination system installed to the west of the chlorine contact tank should also be stocked with the appropriate chemicals prior to commencement of the disinfection season.

In addition to the above, a review of the electronic discharge self-monitoring reports (eDMRs) received by Ohio EPA for the period March 1, 2012 through March 1, 2013 indicates the following apparent noncompliance of the terms and conditions of the NPDES permit for the facility:

Limit Violations

The following effluent limit violations are noted for the time period reviewed:

Station	Reporting Code	Parameter	Limit Type	Limit	Reported Value	Violation Date
001	31648	E. coli	30D Conc	161	310.	6/1/2012
001	00400	pH	1D Conc	6.5	6.4	2/7/2013

Compliance Schedule

Ohio EPA notes the following regarding your compliance schedule contained within your NPDES permit:

Permit Effective Date	Permit Expiration Date	Schedule Due Date	Completion Date	Event Code	Schedule Type	Schedule Milestone
04/1/2011	3/31/2016	4/1/2012	4/03/2012	95999	Other	E Coli Status Report
4/1/2011	3/31/2016	4/1/2012	N/A	-----	Other	E Coli PTI if Needed
4/1/2011	3/31/2016	10/1/2012	Not Complete	05699	Other	Achieve Final Limits

Other Violations

Failure to Notify of a Sanitary Sewer Overflow (SSO)

Sanitary sewer overflows are considered unauthorized discharges pursuant to Part III, Item 11 of your NPDES permit, and failure to report an overflow within 24 hours of discovery is a violation of Part III, Item 12 of your NPDES permit. The March 22, 2013, sanitary sewer overflow at Lot No. 17 of the trailer park is an SSO. A written report of the chronology of events associated with the overflow and the steps taken to eliminate the overflow must be sent to Ohio EPA's Northeast District Office.

Part III, Item 12 of your NPDES permit requires you to notify Ohio EPA of any violations, along with measures taken to ensure that they are not repeated. To-date, Ohio EPA has not received this notification for the limit violations noted above along with the measures to be taken to ensure that they are not repeated.

A fact sheet on the above requirements may be found online at [http://epa.ohio.gov/portals/35/permits/24-hour\\_Report\\_FactSheet.pdf](http://epa.ohio.gov/portals/35/permits/24-hour_Report_FactSheet.pdf) and the noncompliance notification forms may be found online at <http://epa.ohio.gov/dsw/permits/individuals.aspx>.

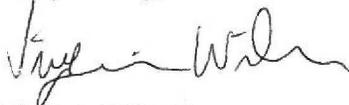
**Please inform this office, in writing, within 30 days of the date of this letter as to the actions that will be taken to correct the above noncompliance or explanations if you believe the noncompliance issues noted are in error. Your response to this letter should include the**

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**dates that the actions have been or will be completed. Please also be advised that past or present issues of noncompliance can continue as subjects of future enforcement actions by Ohio EPA and are subject to fines up to \$10,000 per violation per day. Note that any legal disputes between occupants of the mobile home park and the estate of Rudolf W. Herzog does not eliminate the estate from meeting the legal requirements of all other state laws including the Clean Water Act. Ohio EPA expects that that no future calls will be received regarding the illegal discharge of pollutants to waters of the state due to these issues.**

Should you have any comments or questions concerning this correspondence, please feel free to call Mr. Schmidt at (330) 963-1175 or me at (330) 963-1180.

Respectfully,



Virginia Wilson  
Water Quality Engineer/Supervisor  
Division of Surface Water

VLW/cs

cc: Mr. Michael B. Locy, A & C Mobile Homes Inc  
Mr. Dustin Lewis, Clear Stream, Inc.  
Marlene Knopsnider

File: Semipublic/Ashtabula/Geneva Twp/Geneva Trailer Park (3PV00117)