



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

Re: Ashland County
Black River Local Schools WWTP
NPDES Permit

May 2, 2013

Ms. Janice Wyckoff, Superintendent
Black River Local Schools
257 County Road 40
Sullivan, Ohio 44880

Dear Superintendent Wyckoff:

On April 18, 2013, an inspection was made of the waste water treatment facilities serving the Black River Local Schools. At the time of the inspection, all of the major treatment units were in operation. Most of these units were operating normally; however, the surface sand filters were ponded and partially overflowing in an unsatisfactory condition.

The onsite maintenance supervisor, Joe Kmitt, stated that the plant had been running extremely well until the week of April 7. Large rains that week caused high flows at the treatment plant that washed solids onto the sand filter beds. Joe has been taking measures since then to address the ponded filters. It is apparent that more work needs to be done to identify and eliminate sources of inflow and infiltration into the sanitary sewer.

Several leaks were identified in the sand filter bed walls. Joe stated these leaks are only a problem when the filters are ponded and that in normal operation all water flows through the bottom of the filters. A large amount of sand and dried sludge was present around the outside of the filter bed walls. This material should be disposed in a sanitary landfill.

Part II, Paragraph K of your National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit requires that a sign be placed at the outfall location from the treatment plant. The permit states that the sign should have been erected no later than September 1, 2012. At the time of the inspection, no outfall sign was present. Within 30 days of receipt of this letter, the sign shall be erected. Written confirmation shall be submitted to our office once this is complete.

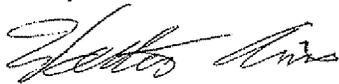
The operator's log book was reviewed during the inspection and found to be satisfactory. I mentioned to Joe that one improvement he could make is to include better notes on his activities at the plant. For instance, he had not included any notes in the log about his efforts to remove water from the ponded filters.

Superintendent Janice Wyckoff
May 2, 2013
Page Two

A review of the discharge monitoring reports submitted for the months of January 2012 through March 2013 revealed four **violations** of the limits contained in your NPDES permit. All of these violations were for exceeding the nitrogen ammonia limit in the October 2012 sample.

A copy of our completed inspection report is enclosed for your review. If you have any questions, please call me at 419-373-3070.

Sincerely,



Walter Ariss, P.E.
Environmental Specialist II
Division of Surface Water

/jlm

Enclosure

pc: Lonnie McGhee, MTWSI

ec: Tracking

OHIO ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE INSPECTION
WWTP'S LESS THAN 150,000 GPD

NPDES Permit No. 2PT00015

Facility Name Black River Schools Expiration Date 4/30/17

Facility Location 257 ACE RD Date 4/18/13 Time 11:20 am

City Sullivan County Ashland Township _____

Name of Owner _____ Owner Phone _____

Person Contacted Joe Knitt Operator of Record Joe Knitt / MTWSI

Flow: Design 25,000 GPD WWTP Classification: X A or 1

Trib. Pop. _____ (actual - estimated) Weather at time of inspection: Temp 65° - sun

OEPA Personnel Walter Ariss District NWDO

1. Plant Effluent - Mark Severity No.

No.	Severity Description	Turbidity	Odor	Color
0	None	Clear	X None	X Colorless
1	Mild	X		
2	Moderate	Light Solids	Musty	Grey
3	Serious			
4	Extreme	Heavy Solids	Septic	Black

2. Effect of Effluent on Receiving Stream Name: unnamed trib west fork, East Branch Black River

No.	Severity Description	Turbidity	Odor	Color
0	None	Clear	X None	X Colorless
1	Mild	X		
2	Moderate	Light Solids	Musty	Grey
3	Serious			
4	Extreme	Heavy Solids	Septic	Black

3. a. Plant has _____ excellent X good _____ fair _____ poor operation
 b. Plant has _____ excellent X good _____ fair _____ poor maintenance
 c. Sand filters have _____ excellent _____ good _____ fair X poor maintenance- N/A
 d. Not operating at expected efficiency due to:

- (1) X hydraulic overload
 (2) _____ organic/solids overload
 (3) _____ personnel inefficiency
 (4) _____ equipment failure
 (5) _____ wastes
 (6) _____

Disinfection: (Required May 1 thru Oct. 31)		
IN	OUT	
<u>X</u>	_____	Chlorination Tablets
_____	<u>X</u>	Dechlorination Tablets
_____	_____	Ultraviolet (U.V.)

Yes No

4. X _____ Compliance with NPDES Permit
 Periodic Violations X Y N Parameters: NH3
 Chronic Violations _____

5. X _____ O & M logbook kept and available on site: Location in del plant building
 6. X _____ Staffing Requirement Met (Class A - 2 days per week for minimum 1 hour per week)
 (Class I - 3 days per week for minimum 1.5 hours per week)
 7. X _____ Adequate Plant Safety: Deficiencies _____

Facility Name: Black River Schools

Process	# Units	Unit	If Needed - Description and Comments
Preliminary	X	Trash Trap	Pumping Frequency ?
		Grease Trap	Pumping Frequency
		Bar Screen	
		Comminutor	
	X	Flow Equalization	okay - pumps running
Aeration Equipment	X	Plant Timer <u>Y</u> N	Cycle Time:
		Motor / Blower Unit <u>running</u>	
Secondary Treatment	X	Aeration Tank	Color: <u>good color</u> Adequate Aeration <u>(Y)</u> N
Final Settling	X	Clarifier	<u>clear to 6" then turbid</u>
	X	Sludge Return	In <u>X</u> Out
	X	Surface Skimmer	In <u>X</u> Out
	X	Fixed Media Clarifier	<u>media covered with sludge</u>
Tertiary Treatment	X	Surface Sand Filter	<u>Both beds ponded - west bed overflowing</u>
		Polishing Pond	
Disinfection	X	Contact Tank	<u>clear water - but dark material on bottom of tank</u>
	X	Chlorine Tube Feeder	<u>have tablets</u>
	X	Dechlorination Tube Feeder	<u>no tablets</u>
		Ultraviolet (UV)	
Flow Metering	X	Elapsed Pump Time	<u>or filter dosing</u>
		Recorder (continuous total)	
Pumps	X	Raw Wastewater (type) <u>Flow EQ</u>	<u>okay</u>
	X	Sand Filter Effluent Dosing	<u>okay</u>
Sludge Handling	X	Aerated Storage Tank	<u>air on - half full</u>
		Sludge Drying Bed	
Sludge Disposal		Municipal POTW	
	X	Landfill	<u>need to haul sand from filters to landfill</u>
		Land Application	
Advanced Treatment	X	Post Aeration	<u>off</u>
		Spray Irrigation	
		Other	