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

May 3, 2013

Mr. Bryan Chodkowski
Riverside City Manager
Community Improvement Corporation of Riverside
1791 Harshman Road
Riverside, Ohio 45424

**RE: BRANTWOOD SECTION 1, NPDES PERMIT # 1GC04214*AG; CONSTRUCTION SITE INSPECTION**

Dear Mr. Chodkowski:

On Tuesday, April 30, 2013, I inspected the Brantwood Section 1 development project in Riverside to determine compliance with its NPDES construction storm water discharge permit. No one was present at the site at the time of this inspection. The inspection was prompted by a complaint called in to this office by Mr. Bernie Thiess, who expressed concerns about possible damage to his property that could be caused by excess runoff coming from the Brantwood site.

Because it was not raining at the time of the inspection, I was unable to determine if Mr. Theiss's concerns about excess runoff getting on to, and damaging, his property (which abuts the Brantwood site on its western border) were valid. Because his concerns are more about water volume than erosion and sediment control, I advised Mr. Theiss during a follow up phone call that he should contact Riverside with future questions or concerns about the former, and Ohio EPA about the latter.

Based on my observations, the following portion of the site's storm water discharge permit is being violated:

**Part III.G.2.d Sediment Control Practices**
A temporary ditch cut toward the western border of the site would be incapable of minimizing loss of sediment in the event of a rainstorm. A short section of silt fence was installed across this ditch where it breaches a small berm near the property line. The silt fence was not installed properly (ie, trenched in to the ground), and would be incapable of keeping eroded sediments on the project site.

Silt fence is generally not recommended for use in areas where concentrated flows of runoff will occur. A better option might be to block the ditch and let the area behind the berm (on the Brantwood site) near the fence line act as a sediment trap. If the ditch needs to remain in place, then near the property line it should be filled with gravel or some other material that will filter

runoff, trapping some of the eroded sediments and keeping them on the property. Berms made of woody debris or mulch can be effective temporary controls in situations like this, though the material can float away if there's too much water flowing in the ditch. Straw bales are usually too dense to let water pass through, and can force runoff around the sides of the bales, causing further erosion to the sides of the temporary ditch. If the area in question can be used as a temporary sediment trap, straw bales staked down in the ditch would be the easiest way to create a dam, allowing water to pond behind it.

Please explain in your written response to this letter what measures will be taken to minimize the loss of eroded sediments from the western side of the project. Additionally, please provide within 14 days of receipt of this letter the following information:

1. A copy of the site's storm water pollution prevention plan (SWP3);
2. Copies of sediment control inspections kept for the project since work began;
3. The manner in which post-construction storm water management requirements will be met (see page 20 of the permit for details). The presence of relatively thick sand and gravel deposits under much of the site offers opportunities for infiltration of runoff, which could lower project costs by reducing the need for piping and catch basins and other standard storm water management infrastructure.
4. The location of the site's sediment settling pond (which is a required feature for developments over 10 acres in size), and when it will be installed. Typically such basins are the first feature installed so that eroded sediments from bare uphill areas will be carried into the basins, thus staying on the property;
5. A copy of the co-permittee form completed by those companies who will be co-permittees with the city of Riverside during the development of the subdivision.
6. A copy of the document used to prove that all relevant contractors and subs have acknowledged, via their signatures, that they "...reviewed and understand the conditions and responsibilities of the SWP3". (See Part III.E at the top of page 12 of the permit.)

If you have questions regarding the letter you can contact me at (937) 285-6442, or via email at chris.cotton@epa.ohio.gov.

Sincerely,

Chris Cotton
Environmental Specialist II
Division of Surface Water

cc: OEPA/SWDO/DSW Files

CC\bp