



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

May 11, 2013

RE: TRUMBULL COUNTY
FOWLER TOWNSHIP
BRIARFIELD OF CORTLAND
4250 SODOM-HUTCHINGS RD, NE
NPDES PERMIT NO. 3PR00166

Briarfield of Cortland
4250 Sodom-Hutchings Road, NE
Cortland, OH 44410
Attn: Deborah Ifft, Owner

Dear Ms. Ifft:

A Compliance Evaluation Inspection (CEI) was conducted by this writer, on April 11, 2013, at the Briarfield of Cortland wastewater treatment plant (WWTP). The Briarfield of Cortland is located at 4250 Sodom-Hutchings Road NE, Fowler Township.

The purpose of the inspection was to evaluate the WWTP operation and maintenance, as well as the facility's compliance with its NPDES Permit effluent limits. The most recent CEI conducted on the WWTP was October 5, 2011.

At the time of the April 11th inspection, the following observations were made:

- 1) Contents of the trash trap were typical.
- 2) Contents of the flow equalization tank were well aerated, and were light brown in color.
- 3) The extended aeration tank contents were medium brown in color, and the return sludge line was returning brown activated sludge to the aeration tank.

There are two blower/motors which provide aeration for the aeration tank. One of the two blower/motors was in operation at the time of the inspection. The high air pressure relief valve plates were rusted, and not able to properly function.

- 4) Settling tank contents were clear, with a blanket of sludge observed approximately 1 ½ feet below the water surface. The settling tank skimmer was returning clear water to the aeration tank, but was adjusted too far below the water surface, as there was a layer of floating brown scum on the tank contents. There also was a scum/solids buildup behind the settling tank inlet baffle.

The effluent trough contained a deposition of solids and an algae/mossy growth. Effluent from the settling tank was clear and visually free of solids.

- 5) Both of the sand filter dosing station pumps were found in the 'AUTO' mode, and operated properly when manually tested.
- 6) The surface sand filter west cell was dosed when the pumps were manually tested. A large amount of vegetative growth was observed in the east cell, and the west cell dosing pipe had fallen off of the distribution box and was laying on the sand in the cell..
- 7) The aerated sludge holding tank was ½ full of light brown sludge being well aerated.
- 8) The effluent was not being disinfected, as disinfection is not required November 1st through April 30th. Disinfection is accomplished using tablet chlorination and dechlorination units, both of which contain 4 tubes. The dechlorination unit had one tube was missing a cap.
- 9) An ultrasonic flow meter is used to measure flow from the WWTP.
- 10) The WWTP effluent was visually clear, and contained no visible solids or foam.
- 11) The sludge drying beds were in use. The north cell contained wet sludge in the process of drying, while the south cell contained dried, cracked sludge solids.



The following items need to be addressed as soon as possible:

- 1) The aeration tank blower/motor high air pressure relief valves should be made operational (remove rust and lubricate).
- 2) The settling tank effluent trough needs cleaning, and any algae/moss growth or solids should be removed on a regular basis. The solids/scum behind the inlet baffle should be removed, and the skimmer adjusted to approximately ¼" below the water surface.
- 3) The sand filters should be kept free of solids and vegetation, and the sand kept level. The dosing pipe in the west cell needs to be reconnected.
- 4) If not already in service, the tablet chlorination and dechlorination units need to be put into operation, and all tubes have missing caps replaced.

A review of the WWTP operating data submitted to the Ohio EPA was conducted prior to the inspection. The electronic Discharge Monitoring Report (eDMR) data covered the period of October 1, 2011, through April 1, 2013. The SWIMS program reported the following numeric effluent violations of the Briarfield of Cortland NPDES permit to discharge:

**BRIARFIELD OF CORTLAND
NPDES PERMIT NO. 3PR00166
NUMERIC EFFLUENT VIOLATIONS
(10/1/11 – 4/1/13)**

Reporting Period	Parameter	Limit Type	Limit	Reported Value	Violation Date
May 2012	Fecal Coliform	30D Conc	1000	1300.	5/1/2012
June 2012	E. coli	30D Conc	161	1500.	6/1/2012
June 2012	E. coli	7D Conc	362	1500.	6/15/2012
September 2012	E. coli	30D Conc	161	220.	9/1/2012
November 2012	CBOD 5 day	30D Conc	10	12.8	11/1/2012

Note: A review of the eDMRs for the same period found no reporting frequency or code violations for the facility.

The operator of record for the WWTP is Mr. Scott Mascioli. Mr. Mascioli also submits the required monthly operating data to the Ohio EPA for the facility. Cardinal Labs performs sample analyses.

The items detailed above need to be immediately addressed, and this office notified in writing, when they are completed. Operation and Maintenance practices on the WWTP need to be improved, and should continue to be implemented such that the Briarfield of Cortland WWTP can continuously meet its NPDES Permit effluent limits.

If there are questions or comments regarding the contents of this letter, please contact this office.

Respectfully,



Charles E. Allen
Environmental Engineer
Division of Surface Water

CEA/cs