



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

July 26, 2013

RE: GEAUGA COUNTY  
CLARIDON  
CLARIDON MINI MART  
NPDES# 3PR00502\*AD

**CERTIFIED MAIL**

Mr. Ken Ashba  
Claridon Mini Mart & BP  
14745 Mayfield Road, P.O. Box 421  
E. Claridon, Ohio 44033

Dear Mr. Ashba:

On July 25, 2013, this writer conducted an inspection of the sewage treatment plant serving the above referenced facility. The intent of the inspection was to assess the operations and maintenance of the treatment system and notify review compliance with the NPDES permit

**INSPECTION SUMMARY**

Below are the findings and recommendations from the inspection:

The aeration tank appeared to be provided with adequate aeration. One blower is present at the facility and was in operation at the time of the inspection. The contents of the aeration portion of the plant appeared to be a dark brown gray color. The settling chamber had no visible solids accumulating on the surface of the tank. Solids were noted accumulating in the influent baffle and the skimmer appeared to be submerged. The effluent weir appeared somewhat submerged as well.

The dosing station contains two pumps which dose the surface sand filters. At the time of the inspection, the dosing chamber appeared to be in satisfactory condition. The sand filters contained a thick layer of solids on both filter beds. Both filter beds must be scraped clean and all solids and other debris raked off the sand media. Allowing a thick accumulation of solids on the surface of the sand media will prevent the filters from providing effective tertiary treatment of the wastewater. This could result in NPDES permit effluent violations if not maintained properly. As a reminder, when raking the sand filters clean, all removed solids and sand must be properly disposed in a dumpster. No spent sand media or solids must be stored onsite on the open ground.

It is understood the facility hauls solids offsite for further treatment/handling. No sludge holding tank is currently provided at this WWTP. This office recommends the facility routinely scrape down the surfaces of the clarifier to remove the solids accumulating on the sidewalls. Scraping the sidewalls of the settling chamber ensures the proper return of solids to the aeration chamber and prevents solids from building up in the dosing chamber and passing through to the sand filter and potentially clogging the underdrains. In addition, it is recommends wasting sludge from the WWTP when needed.

The chlorination/dechlorination was inspected and found to be in satisfactory condition with both chlorination and dechlorination tablets provided. The final effluent is to a culvert located on Mayfield Road. The wastewater treatment plant (WWTP) was producing what appeared to be a satisfactory quality effluent.

**NPDES PERMIT COMPLIANCE**

The NPDES permit for this facility expires August 31, 2014. As a reminder, NPDES permit renewal applications must be submitted at least 180 days prior to the NPDES permit expiration date (February 2014).

According to the discharge monitoring report (DMR) data from January 1, 2012 through June 1, 2013, the reported flow rate averaged 210 gpd. The DMR data was also reviewed for compliance with the current NPDES permit. A violation summary is shown below:

Reporting Period	Station	Reporting Code	Parameter	Limit Type	Limit	Reported Value	Violation Date
August 2012	001	00610	Nitrogen, Ammonia (NH3)	30D Conc	1.0	1.19	8/1/2012
August 2012	001	50060	Chlorine, Total Residu	1D Conc	0.019	.26	8/24/2012
June 2013	001	00530	Total Suspended Solids	30D Conc	12	35.	6/1/2013
June 2013	001	00530	Total Suspended Solids	7D Conc	18	35.	6/15/2013
June 2013	001	00530	Total Suspended Solids	30D Qty	0.018	.03974	6/1/2013
June 2013	001	00530	Total Suspended Solids	7D Qty	0.027	.03974	6/15/2013
June 2013	001	31616	Fecal Coliform	30D Conc	1000	1190.	6/1/2013
June 2013	001	80082	CBOD 5 day	30D Conc	10	50.	6/1/2013
June 2013	001	80082	CBOD 5 day	7D Conc	15	50.	6/15/2013
June 2013	001	80082	CBOD 5 day	30D Qty	0.01	.05678	6/1/2013
June 2013	001	80082	CBOD 5 day	7D Qty	0.02	.05678	6/15/2013

The WWTP is currently classified by the Ohio EPA as a Class A wastewater treatment facility. This classification is located in the NPDES permit which had an effective date of September 1, 2009. As such, the facility is required to obtain the services of a Class A state certified operator. Our records indicate Michael Zronek is the Certified Operator of Record (ORC) for the Claridon Mini Mart & BP. Please notify this office if Mr. Zronek is no longer the ORC for this facility.

**SUMMARY**

In summary, the following items must be completed within the required deadline:

- 1) Clean out the sand filters and provide this office with notification once completed. This office is requesting the sand filters be cleaned out as soon as possible, but no later than August 10, 2013.
- 2) Routinely check the operation of the clarifier portion of the WWTP to ensure proper settling of solids is occurring to prevent pass through of solids to the dosing station and the surface sand filters. In addition, the operation of the weir and skimmer must be assessed to ensure both are operating effectively. Provide notification to this office regarding the operation of the clarifier as soon as possible but no later than August 10, 2013.

Failure to complete any of the above noted items may result in this matter being referred to our legal section for an enforcement action. Should you have any comments or questions regarding this letter, please contact this office at (330)963-1299.

Respectfully,



Laura A. Weber, P.E.  
Environmental Engineer  
Division of Surface Water

LAW/cs

cc: Geauga County Health Department

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Mr. Ken Ashba  
 Claridon Mini Mart & BP  
 14745 Mayfield Road, P.O. Box 421  
 E. Claridon, Ohio 44033

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