



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



September 4, 2013

RE: GEAUGA COUNTY  
HAMB DEN TWP  
HAMB DEN GRANGE HALL  
NO. 2482  
NPDES# 3PR00430

**NOTICE OF VIOLATION**

**CERTIFIED LETTER**

Ms. Barbara Palmer  
Hambden Grange Hall No. 2482  
P.O. Box 153  
Chardon, OH 44024

Dear Ms. Palmer:

On August 29, 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 review compliance with the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit.

Below are the findings and recommendations from the inspection:

**NPDES PERMIT COMPLIANCE**

- 1) The permit compliance review indicates you have violated the terms and conditions of your NPDES permit. The facility has failed to conduct the required monitoring and has failed to submit any discharge monitoring reports since prior to January 1, 2008. This is a violation of your NPDES permit and subject to enforcement actions pursuant Ohio Revised Code, Chapter 6111. This office had previously notified the Hambden Grange Hall of the non compliance in letters dated March 15, 2012, December 30, 2011, August 17, 2010 and July 21, 2010. **Because of the chronic and continued non-compliance, this office is referring the matter to our Legal Staff to initiate an enforcement action against Hambden Grange Hall.**
- 2) According to the NPDES permit, the wastewater treatment system is listed as a Class A Wastewater Treatment system. Our records indicate Dennis Powers is the certified operator who was obtained as the Operator of Record (ORC).

**INSPECTION SUMMARY**

At the time of the inspection, the wastewater treatment plant (WWTP) was not in operation.

In the past, the facility has expressed concern over the low use of the building. It is understood there is not a full time tenant in the building producing wastewater on a regular basis. From past information provided to this office, it appears the occupancy is limited to mostly a few short

meetings each week. It is understood the building is used regularly for monthly meetings, seasonal music events, occasional rentals for party's and is sometimes used as a meeting space for a group that meets weekly. Per the NPDES permit, the facility is required to submit discharge monitoring data whether there is a discharge or not. When the system does not discharge for an entire month, there is a check box on the electronic data submittal form that can be chosen which signifies "no discharge for the month" and therefore no sampling would be required.

Due to the limited use of the building, you had previously expressed an interest in abandoning the WWTP to keep costs down or. The facility also expressed an interest in maintaining the WWTP but keeping it pumped down to such that it does not discharge. Please be advised, to accomplish this, the system must be pumped periodically by a certified wastewater hauler. The facility must also maintain pumping records. If the WWTP should discharge during the month, the facility will be required to conduct the sampling required per the NPDES permit.

To date, no pumping records or discharge monitoring reports have been submitted. As such, this office has no information on the WWTP or if the system has been pumped out.

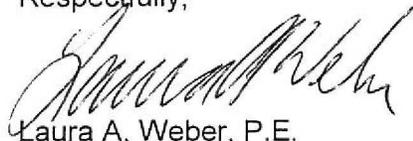
**SUMMARY**

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

- 1) Begin submitting discharge monitoring reports immediately. The reports must be continually submitted, in accordance with the monitoring requirements of your NPDES permit.
- 2) Contact this office as soon as possible but no later than ten days from receipt of this letter to acknowledge receipt of the letter and discuss the issue of non-compliance.

Should you have any comments or questions regarding this letter or your non-compliance, please contact this office at (330)963-1299.

Respectfully,



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

LAW/cs

Enclosures: Letter dated July 21, 2012

cc: Geauga County Health Department

File/Semi Public/Geauga/Hambden Twp/ 3PR00430

7012 3050 0001 8843 1714

**U.S. Postal Service™**  
**CERTIFIED MAIL™ RECEIPT**  
*(Domestic Mail Only; No Insurance Coverage Provided)*

For delivery information visit our website at [www.usps.com](http://www.usps.com)®

**OFFICIAL USE**

Postage	\$
Certified Fee	
Return Receipt Fee (Endorsement Required)	
Restricted Delivery Fee (Endorsement Required)	
Total Postage & Fees	\$

Postmark  
Here

*Sent To*

.....  
*Street, Apt. No.,  
or PO Box No.*

.....  
*City, State, ZIP+4*

