Ohio Environmental Protection Agency

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

December 2, 2011

Horesh Chahine, Owner
Horizon Mart
13075 Worthington Road SW
Pataskala, OH 43062

Re: Horizon Mart
NPDES Permit 4PX00037/ OH0124231
Reconnaissance Inspection
Licking County
Notice of Violation

Dear Mr. Chahine:

On November 23, 2011, a Reconnaissance Inspection was conducted at the Horizon Mart. Present for the inspection were Mr. Horesh Chahine, Owner, Mike Sapp and myself of the Ohio EPA, Central District Office, Division of Surface Water. The purpose of the inspection was to evaluate compliance with the terms and conditions of your NPDES permit and to evaluate the operation and maintenance of the wastewater treatment plant (WWTP).

The inspection revealed a series of violations of your NPDES permit, a copy of which I presented to you on our arrival for the inspection. First and foremost, Horizon Mart does not have a licensed wastewater treatment plant operator. A minimum of a Class A certified operator must be overseeing operation of the WWTP. This violation must be corrected immediately. Additional violations of the NPDES permit included the following:

- Failure to submit discharge monitoring reports (DMRs) as required by the permit (see Attachment B) in addition to other needed record-keeping (e.g., an operator logbook).
- Violations of the ammonia-nitrogen limitations in the NPDES permit (see Attachment B).
- Failure to abide by the compliance schedule listed in the NPDES permit including failure to complete repairs to the cracked PVC pipe junction leading from the flow splitter box into the sand filter(s) and inadequate repairs to the cover of the flow equalization tank. The cover must be repaired/replaced such that large debris and wildlife are excluded from the equalization tank. Adequate tank covers are a necessity as there is no fencing surrounding the WWTP leaving open the possibility of customers or others accessing the plant and possibly falling into the tank.

Additional concerns with the operation of the WWTP are noted below:

- The flow equalization tank pump appeared to have been replaced and was operating, although the replacement pump appeared to be installed in a temporary mounting with extension cords providing power. These cords could easily be unplugged by a bystander or even short circuited in a heavy rain.

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- The sand filter beds contained a moderate amount of vegetation growing within, indicating a lack of regular maintenance. The beds should be maintained properly to prevent vegetation growth and to provide a level surface for adequate filtration.

- The sludge return piping appeared to be clogged and should be unclogged allowing free return of sludge to the aeration tank from the clarifier.

The effluent emanating from the WWTP appeared to be clear and the disinfection/chlorine removal equipment seemed to be in working order with remnants of chlorine and dechlorination tablets found in both units. However, since no DMRs have been submitted, effluent quality and quantity cannot be assessed and so it is unknown if the WWTP is adequately treating wastes. Also, the owner is reminded that disinfection is not required between October 31 and May 1 according to your NPDES permit.

Many of the violations noted can be corrected by hiring a certified, qualified WWTP operator to properly operate, maintain, and ensure self-monitoring as required in your NPDES permit. This operator must be hired immediately, but no later than December 16, 2011 and DMRs must be submitted for the month of December and in following months in accordance with your NPDES permit. Please respond in writing to me by December 23, 2011, highlighting the steps you have taken to correct the violations noted in this inspection report.

I have enclosed a copy of a guide to assist in the operation of a package WWTP. This should be helpful information to allow you to operate the WWTP in compliance with your NPDES permit. The following web links will also be helpful for you to attain and maintain compliance with your NPDES permit:

- This web link is the operator of record notification form that you will need to remit; http://epa.ohio.gov/portals/28/documents/opcert/Operator_of_Record_Notification_Form.pdf

- This website will assist you in understanding WWTP operator certification. There are several areas you can explore including Class A operator requirements and training opportunities; http://www.epa.state.oh.us/dsw/opcert/opcert.aspx

- This website will assist you in understanding and submission of the electronic Discharge Monitoring Report (eDMR) required by your NPDES permit; http://www.epa.state.oh.us/dsw/edmr/eDMR.aspx

If you have any questions or comments concerning the enclosed inspection report, please contact me at (614) 728-3854 or e-mail at paul.vandermeer@epa.ohio.gov.

Sincerely,

Paul Vandermeer
Environmental Specialist
Field Operations Unit
Division of Surface Water
Central District Office

ec: Paul Vandermeer

Enclosure

NPDES Compliance Inspection Report

SECTION A: NATIONAL DATA SYSTEM CODING				
Permit #	NPDES #	Inspection Type	Inspector	Facility Type
4PX00037	OH0124231	RI	S	A
Inspection Date	Entry Time	Exit Time	Notice of Violation	Significant Non-Compliance
11/23/2011	10:00	11:00	Yes	No

SECTION B: FACILITY DATA	
Name and Location of Facility Inspected	Permit Effective Date
Horizon Mart	7/1/2009
	Permit Expiration Date
	6/30/2014
Name(s) and Title(s) of On-Site Representatives	Phone Numbers
See below	
Name and Title of Responsible Official	Phone Number
Horesh Chahine, Owner	(740) 964-6997

SECTION C: AREAS EVALUATED DURING INSPECTION		
Key: S = Satisfactory, M = Marginal, U = Unsatisfactory, N = Not Evaluated		
U	NPDES Compliance	
U	Operations & Maintenance	
U	Facility Site Review	
N	Collection System	
N	Flow Measurement	
U/N	Effluent/Receiving Waters	
N	Laboratory	

Comments:

Signatures	
12/5/11	Erin Sherer 12/5/11
Paul Vandermeer, Inspector Date Compliance & Enforcement Division of Surface Water Central District Office	Erin Sherer, Reviewer Date Compliance & Enforcement Supervisor Division of Surface Water Central District Office

Attachment B

Summary
Permit Effluent Limit Violations: 2
Permit Effluent Code Violations: 0
Permit Effluent Frequency Violations: * 0
Compliance Schedule Violations: 1

Limit Violations						
Reporting Period	Station	Parameter	Limit Type	Limit	Reported Value	Violation Date
December 2010	001	Nitrogen, Ammonia (NH3	30D Conc	3.0	14.4	12/1/2010
December 2010	001	Nitrogen, Ammonia (NH3	7D Conc	4.5	14.4	12/8/2010

Missing Compliance Schedule Milestones				
Schedule Due Date	Completion Date	Event Code	Schedule Type	Schedule Milestone
January 2010		4599	Construction	End Construction

*The facility has 8 missing data reports.

Station	Required Report Period	DMR Received
001	January 2010	No
001	March 2010	No
001	April 2010	No
001	May 2010	No
001	June 2010	No
001	February 2011	No
001	September 2011	No
001	October 2011	No