

WA0020729 Dayton STP OO Visit of 04-10-2012

From: Fleischman, Darrel (ECY)

Report Date: 04-25-2012

To: McGuire, Patrick (ECY)

CC: Hepp, Michael (ECY), Joy, Shara-Li (ECY), Washington, Diana (ECY), Barik, Sanjay (ECY)

Re: Technical Assistance

Date(s) contacted: Tuesday, 04-10-2012

Contact venue(s): onsite visit, preplanned

Contacted: Mike Bowhay (Operator)

Arrived: 1005

Left: 1125

Total Time on site: 1 hr., 20 min.

Narrative:

Recent history:

A summary of violations in the current calendar year, if any, at the subject facility, are identified below. These are obtained from PARIS (Permit and Reporting Information System) records.

I attempted to contact Jim Costello (public works director) (left voicemail) and Mike Bowhay (email and calls) before my visit, but they went unanswered. I showed up anyway, as I was in the area.

Violations:

PARIS has several effluent pH violations recorded for Waitsburg in 2011. All are late DMR submittals. Mike said his printer was broken, and no budget for a new one. I don't know if it was broken the entire time during the period the DMRs were late. I told Mike that if there's any doubt that a DMR will be late, they may be faxed to ERO, as long as they are followed up by a hard copy.

This visit:

I met Mike in the lab. We had a discussion about pH meters and probes, including the longevity of same. Mike asked me if he should discard pH buffer after every use. I replied that most labs use them for a couple of weeks unless they become cross-contaminated with water, samples or other buffers. I examined the small bottles of buffers on the bench top. A couple of them had fibers in them, perhaps growth. I told him those should be discarded and replaced with fresh buffers in clean containers.

We discussed ammonia tests. Mike uses the Nessler method.

Then we toured the plant. I mainly wanted to see what they'd done in the influent channel ahead of the fine screen. They've attached a street sign in the 1/3 of the channel where it was bypassing the screen before. Some flow was still getting through. But more importantly, the rags and debris caught and transported by the fine screen appeared dryer than before (which is a good thing). Two other signs are being used to reduce splashing from the screening device.

Photos below are of the screening area.



Some small debris and grease balls still get through, but an inspection of the downstream wet well showed a definite improvement from previous visits.

The primary and secondary clarifiers needed hosing on the weirs and launders.

The sludge thickener looked lots better than before; there had been a lot of rubber and plastic goods floating on the surface. The two photos below of that vessel show lots more sludge and lots less debris.



We discussed a few more details of the operation and then I departed for my next appointment.

End of report