



**Environmental  
Protection Agency**

Ted Strickland, Governor  
Lee Fisher, Lt. Governor  
Chris Korleski, Director

RECEIVED  
NORTHWESTERN WATER  
AND SEWER DISTRICT

2011 JAN 12 P 4:11

January 6, 2011

Brad Espen, Director  
Environmental Health  
Wood County Health District  
1840 East Gypsy Lane Road  
Bowling Green, Ohio 43402

Re: Wastewater Collection and Treatment General Plan for the Five Points Road Area in Middleton Township, Wood County

Dear Mr. Espen:

On June 1, 2010, Ohio EPA received the above-referenced General Plan from the Northwest Water & Sewer District, and an addendum to the General Plan was received on October 19, 2010. The General Plan concludes that the Wood County Health Department plan outlined in your December 18, 2009, letter to alleviate the pollution in the area is the most reasonable approach and recommends that the Ohio EPA consider this approach.

We typically advocate sewers as the only permanent solution to abate the unsanitary conditions. However, Ohio EPA will not object to your proposal with the understanding that in addition to the five steps outlined in the December 18, 2009 letter, Wood County Health Department must take any other actions necessary to insure that unsanitary conditions are eliminated. Every discharging and failing system must be addressed. If all homeowners do not commit to the Wood County Health Department plan, then the low pressure sanitary sewer system option as recommended in the General Plan must be implemented.

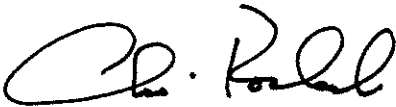
I recommend that your agency conduct a meeting with all of the homeowners with properties believed to be draining to the two waterways with unsanitary conditions. The purpose of the meeting would be to explain what each homeowner in the neighborhoods needs to do under a signed agreement with the Wood County Health Department. The residents of this area must also be informed that if the repairs do not work, sewers may need to be installed in the area at additional cost.

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Please keep in mind that it is Ohio EPA's expectation that the unsanitary conditions be eliminated. If the identification and correction of illicit discharges is limited to the Shelton Gardens area and water quality violations continue to be identified by Ohio EPA, further corrections will be required. These solutions may ultimately result in centralized sewers in the area. The risk exists that upgrading home systems may not abate the unsanitary conditions.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact George Elmaraghy, Division of Surface Water Chief, at (614) 644-2001.

Sincerely,



Chris Korleski  
Director

CK:bh

cc: State Representative Randy Gardner  
Jerry Greiner, Northwest Water & Sewer District  
George Elmaraghy, Ohio EPA Division of Surface Water  
Elizabeth Wick, Ohio EPA Northwest District Office