



July 16, 2026

Transmitted Electronically

Mr. Mike Caprella, Utilities Director
City of Lima
50 Town Square
Lima, Ohio 45804

**Re: Lima WWTP
Notice of Violation (NOV)
NOV
NPDES
Allen County
2PE00000**

Subject: Notice of Violation

Dear Mr. Caprella:

Ohio EPA, Division of Surface Water (DSW), conducted an inspection of the Lima Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) in Lima, Ohio on July 7, 2026. Mr. Thomas Poffenbarger and I were present. As discussed, the goal of our inspection was to determine your facility's compliance with Ohio's environmental laws and regulations and the terms and conditions of the Lima WWTP NPDES permit 2PE00000 issued on June 2, 2023. Our inspection included a review of company operations and written documentation associated with facility operations.

Violations

Ohio EPA DSW discovered the following violation of Ohio's environmental laws and regulations and the Lima WWTP's permit terms and conditions. It is recommended you promptly address the violation(s).

- 1. Violation Description:** The City has reported violations of effluent limits for low level mercury, E. coli, total suspended solids, dissolved oxygen, pH – minimum, CBOD₅, and ammonia. These are violations of *Ohio Revised Code 6111.04(C), Part I A, and Part III of your permit.*

Additional Information: As a result of the effluent limit violations cited above, the City is in significant noncompliance (SNC) for ammonia.

Requested Action: Please provide a plan and timeline to return to compliance with the NPDES permit.

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Conclusion

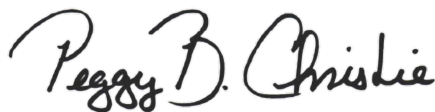
Within thirty (30) days of receipt of this letter, please provide documentation to Ohio EPA DSW of the actions taken and/or will be taken to resolve the violation cited above. Documentation of steps taken to resolve this violation includes but is not limited to: written correspondence, updated policies, and photographs, as appropriate, and may be submitted via the postal service or electronically to peggy.christie@epa.ohio.gov. If circumstances delay resolution of violations, the City of Lima is requested to contact Ohio EPA DSW to discuss the situation and propose an alternative schedule to resolve the violations in a timely manner.

Failure to comply with Chapter 6111 of the Ohio Revised Code and rules promulgated thereunder may result in an administrative or civil penalty.

Please note that the submission of any requested information to respond to this letter does not constitute waiver of the Ohio EPA's authority to seek administrative or civil penalties as provided in Chapter 6111.09 of the Ohio Revised Code.

Should you have any questions, please contact me at 419.373.3006 and/or peggy.christie@epa.ohio.gov.

Sincerely,



Peggy B. Christie
District Representative
Division of Surface Water
Northwest District Office

/cle

ec: Scott Sheerin, Ohio EPA-DSW
Thomas Poffenbarger, P.E., Ohio EPA-DSW
Shawn Dersham, Plant Supervisor, Lima WWTP