



JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES & ENVIRONMENT
LANSING DISTRICT OFFICE

REBECCA A. HUMPHRIES
DIRECTOR

March 16, 2010

CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Mr. John C. Beatty, III
Diamond Chrome Plating, Inc.
604 South Michigan Avenue
P.O. Box 557
Howell, Michigan 48844

Dear Mr. Beatty:

SUBJECT: Compliance Communication and Reply to your November 24, 2009,
Request for Reduction of Catch Basin Monitoring Parameters at the
Diamond Chrome Plating Facility, 604 South Michigan Avenue,
Howell, Livingston County
Judicial Consent Decree No. 03-1862-CE
Site ID: 47000202

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources and Environment (DNRE) (formerly the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality), Remediation and Redevelopment Division, Lansing District Office, has completed the review of your request to reduce monitoring requirements established in the September 2007 approved Catch Basin Monitoring Plan (CBMP) submitted under Section 6.6(d) of the Judicial Consent Decree (JCD). Section 7.0 of the CBMP provides the basis for requesting CBMP monitoring changes. The DNRE approved monitoring changes shall be included as a modification to the CBMP.

Our review of your request is in consideration of analytical data presented in quarterly progress reports under Section 6.11 of the JCD, the catch basin annual monitoring report, and work relating to Diamond Chrome Plating's (DCP) recent abatement evaluation activities of the city of Howell storm sewer. Internal inspections of the city of Howell storm sewer are a task described in the November 16, 2009, Catch Basin Monitoring Contingency Plan (CBMCP).

Your November 2009 submittal requests the following parameter reductions:

1. Eliminate weekly visual (flow) inspections of the catch basins described in the CBMP.

2. For volatile organic compounds (VOCs), reduce sampling and analysis from monthly to quarterly at all of the catch basin/manholes described in the CBMP.
3. As per verbal DNRE request, increase monitoring at the Dunkin Donuts catch basin/manhole from quarterly to monthly.
4. In addition, DCP verbally requested (January 2010) that quarterly sampling at the Walnut Street upstream catch basin/manhole be decreased to an annual sample.

The DNRE approves DCP's parameter and sampling frequency reduction requests as referenced above under the following conditions:

1. DCP shall collect grab water samples from the designated catch basin/manhole basins under dry weather conditions as stated in the CBMP. Specifically, the DNRE recommends three days of dry weather prior to collecting the water grab samples. The catch basin water samples must be collected at the approved frequency regardless of weather conditions.
2. Field parameters (pH, temperature, conductivity, turbidity, and flow observations) are retained for all sample events and shall be recorded as field notes as per the CBMP.
3. All sampling and analysis are consistent with quality assurance measures described in the CBMP. These include hex chrome, total chrome, cadmium, nickel, copper, and VOCs. Please be advised that previous laboratory reports have shown total chrome analytical results lower than the hex chrome results for an individual sample. An explanation must be provided by your laboratory when this occurs because chrome III concentrations can not be calculated as a negative value.

Modified Sampling and Parameters Included in the CBMP:

Weekly catch basin/manhole flow checks are dropped. All of the available data indicate that groundwater flow is present in the city of Howell storm sewer upstream from the Walnut Street catch basin/manhole and persists throughout the entire catch basin/manhole sampling segment at all times. Dry weather flow confirmation in the storm sewers shall continue during sample events.

Monthly catch basin sampling includes the North Railroad catch basin/manhole (NRR), the Shear Magic (SM) catch basin/manhole, and the Dunkin Donuts (DD) manhole. Analysis metals parameters and not VOCs shall continue as described in the CBMP when not part of the quarterly sampling schedule.

Quarterly sampling includes the NRR, DCP outfall (if sufficient flow), Livingston Water Care (LWC), SM, and DD catch basin/manholes. Metals and VOCs analyzed as described in the CBMP.

The Walnut Street catch basin is sampled annually for all parameters listed in the CBMP. Please be advised that it may be necessary to sample this catch basin more frequently if storm sewer infiltration above the NRR manhole triggers evaluation and response actions detailed in the performance objectives of the JCD and described in the CBMCP.

The DNRE notes that concentrations of nickel have not approached action levels for any sampling event. If this trend continues, DCP may request reducing or dropping the parameter upon submittal of the annual catch basin monitoring report.

As per your November 16, 2009, correspondence, please update your Municipal Storm Sewer Maintenance Standard Operating Procedure to reflect the DNRE approved changes in your CBMP. The DNRE is including this letter as a modification to the CBMP.

Concluding Remarks:

Groundwater continues to infiltrate the city of Howell storm sewer in maximum concentrations of hexavalent chromium of 34,000 ug/l (January 21, 2010, infiltration inflow between the SM and DD catch basin/manholes). Cadmium (up to 560 ug/l at the SM catch basin/manhole) also greatly exceeds action levels established in the CBMP. Therefore, the CBMCP remains in force at this time.

The DNRE has not received a work schedule for repair of the leaking sections of the city of Howell storm sewer as per Section 11.0 of the CBMP, Section 5.0 of the CBMCP, and as described in Section 6.6 (d) of the JCD. Please submit a schedule for repair of the city of Howell storm sewer within **10 days of receipt of this letter**. If work includes the installation of additional monitoring wells to evaluate groundwater infiltration paths into the storm sewer, then this must be included in the schedule.

DCP must provide a 48-hour notice to the DNRE as per Section 1.0 of the CBMP prior to collection of catch basin samples. Notification to the DNRE for field work that may include catch basin interim response and contaminant migration evaluation field activities must also be provided under provisions of the JCD.

As a reminder, submittal of the Catch Basin Annual Report is due **September 1, 2010**. Given the ongoing infiltration of groundwater contaminants into the city of Howell storm sewer in excess of action levels, catch basin monitoring requirements are ongoing and the 2010 Annual Catch Basin Monitoring Report will not be the last as suggested in the CBMP.

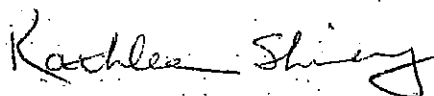
Mr. John C. Beatty, III
Diamond Chrome Plating, Inc.

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March 16, 2010

Please contact me at the phone number below, or contact Ms. Rebecca Taylor at 517-335-6247 or taylorr@michigan.gov if you have any questions regarding the technical aspects of this letter. If you have questions regarding your obligations under the JCD, please contact Mr. Leslie E. Smith, III, at 517-241-0756.

Sincerely,



(for) Ben Hall, District Supervisor
Lansing District Office
Remediation and Redevelopment Division
517-335-6228

bh/rt/cah

cc: Ms. Beth S. Gotthelf, Butzel Long
Mr. Scott Adamowski, Conestoga-Rovers & Associates
Mr. William Yocum, DNRE
Ms. Carla Davidson, DNRE
Mr. Brad Ermisch, DNRE
Mr. Leslie E. Smith, III, DNRE
Ms. Rebecca Taylor, DNRE