

National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit Program

F A C T S H E E T

Regarding an NPDES Permit To Discharge to Waters of the State of Ohio
for Struthers Wastewater Treatment Plant

Public Notice No.: 12-03-069
Public Notice Date: March 30, 2012
Comment Period Ends: April 30, 2012

OEPA Permit No.: 3PD00026*LD
Application No.: OH0027600

Name and Address of Applicant:

City of Struthers
6 Elm Street
Struthers, Ohio 44471

Name and Address of Facility Where
Discharge Occurs:

Struthers Wastewater Treatment Plant
530 Lowellville Road
Struthers, Ohio 44471

Receiving Water: Mahoning River

Subsequent
Stream Network: Beaver River, Ohio River

Introduction

Development of a Fact Sheet for NPDES permits is mandated by Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Section 124.8 and 124.56. This document fulfills the requirements established in those regulations by providing the information necessary to inform the public of actions proposed by the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency, as well as the methods by which the public can participate in the process of finalizing those actions.

This Fact Sheet is prepared in order to document the technical basis and risk management decisions that are considered in the determination of water quality based NPDES Permit effluent limitations. The technical basis for the Fact Sheet may consist of evaluations of promulgated effluent guidelines, existing effluent quality, instream biological, chemical and physical conditions, and the relative risk of alternative effluent limitations. This Fact Sheet details the discretionary decision-making process empowered to the Director by the Clean Water Act and Ohio Water Pollution Control Law (ORC 6111). Decisions to award variances to Water Quality Standards or promulgated effluent guidelines for economic or technological reasons will also be justified in the Fact Sheet where necessary.

Effluent limits based on available treatment technologies are required by Section 301(b) of the Clean Water Act. Many of these have already been established by U.S. EPA in the effluent guideline regulations (a.k.a. categorical regulations) for industry categories in 40 CFR Parts 405-499. Technology-based regulations for publicly-owned treatment works are listed in the Secondary Treatment Regulations (40 CFR Part 133). If regulations have not been established for a category of dischargers, the director may establish technology-based limits based on best professional judgment (BPJ).

Ohio EPA reviews the need for water-quality-based limits on a pollutant-by-pollutant basis. Wasteload allocations are used to develop these limits based on the pollutants that have been detected in the discharge, and the receiving water's assimilative capacity. The assimilative capacity depends on the flow in the water receiving the discharge, and the concentration of the pollutant upstream. The greater the upstream flow, and the lower the upstream concentration, the greater the assimilative capacity is. Assimilative capacity may represent dilution (as in allocations for metals), or it may also incorporate the break-down of pollutants in the receiving water (as in allocations for oxygen-demanding materials).

The need for water-quality-based limits is determined by comparing the wasteload allocation for a pollutant to a measure of the effluent quality. The measure of effluent quality is called PEQ - Projected Effluent Quality. This is a statistical measure of the average and maximum effluent values for a pollutant. As with any statistical method, the more data that exists for a given pollutant, the more likely that PEQ will match the actual observed data. If there is a small data set for a given pollutant, the highest measured value is multiplied by a statistical factor to obtain a PEQ; for example if only one sample exists, the factor is 6.2, for two samples - 3.8, for three samples - 3.0. The factors continue to decline as samples sizes increase. These factors are intended to account for effluent variability, but if the pollutant concentrations are fairly constant, these factors may make PEQ appear larger than it would be shown to be if more sample results existed.

Summary of Permit Conditions

The effluent limits and monitoring requirements proposed for the following parameters are the same as in the current permit, although some monitoring frequencies have changed: flow, temperature, dissolved oxygen, CBOD₅, total suspended solids, ammonia-nitrogen, total phosphorus, nitrite+nitrate-nitrogen, total Kjeldahl nitrogen, oil and grease, pH, total residual chlorine, chromium, dissolved hexavalent chromium, copper, lead, nickel and zinc.

New water quality-based effluent limits are proposed for cadmium. Effluent data show that the Struthers plant has reasonable potential to cause a violation of water quality standards.

A lower monthly average water quality-based effluent limit is proposed for mercury because the City is no longer eligible for coverage under Ohio's mercury variance rule. A three-year interim limit and a requirement to conduct a pollutant minimization program also are proposed. The City also has the option of applying for an individual variance to the mercury water quality standard.

New final effluent limits are proposed for *Escherichia coli*. New water quality standards for *E. coli* became effective in March 2010.

Annual acute toxicity monitoring is proposed for the life of the permit. This satisfies the minimum testing requirements of OAC 3754-33-07(B)(11) and will adequately characterize toxicity in the plant's effluent.

New monitoring is proposed for total filterable residue (total dissolved solids) to obtain data to support future water quality-related evaluations of this parameter.

A 36 month compliance schedule is proposed for the City to evaluate and implement measures to maximize the ability of its existing treatment facilities to reduce effluent ammonia-N concentrations during the summer months.

In Part II of the permit, special conditions are included that address sanitary sewer overflow reporting; operator certification, minimum staffing and operator of record; a pollutant minimization program for mercury; whole effluent toxicity testing; and outfall signage.

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Procedures for Participation in the Formulation of Final Determinations

The draft action shall be issued as a final action unless the Director revises the draft after consideration of the record of a public meeting or written comments, or upon disapproval by the Administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Within thirty days of the date of the Public Notice, any person may request or petition for a public meeting for presentation of evidence, statements or opinions. The purpose of the public meeting is to obtain additional evidence. Statements concerning the issues raised by the party requesting the meeting are invited. Evidence may be presented by the applicant, the state, and other parties, and following presentation of such evidence other interested persons may present testimony of facts or statements of opinion.

Requests for public meetings shall be in writing and shall state the action of the Director objected to, the questions to be considered, and the reasons the action is contested. Such requests should be addressed to:

**Legal Records Section
Ohio Environmental Protection Agency
P.O. Box 1049
Columbus, Ohio 43216-1049**

Interested persons are invited to submit written comments upon the discharge permit. Comments should be submitted in person or by mail no later than 30 days after the date of this Public Notice. Deliver or mail all comments to:

**Ohio Environmental Protection Agency
Attention: Division of Surface Water
Permits Processing Unit
P.O. Box 1049
Columbus, Ohio 43216-1049**

The OEPA permit number and Public Notice numbers should appear on each page of any submitted comments. All comments received no later than 30 days after the date of the Public Notice will be considered.

Citizens may conduct file reviews regarding specific companies or sites. Appointments are necessary to conduct file reviews, because requests to review files have increased dramatically in recent years. The first 250 pages copied are free. For requests to copy more than 250 pages, there is a five-cent charge for each page copied. Payment is required by check or money order, made payable to Treasurer State of Ohio.

For additional information about this fact sheet or the draft permit, contact: John Kwolek, (330) 963-1251, John.Kwolek@epa.ohio.gov at our Northeast District Office; or Gary Stuhlfauth, (614) 644-2026, Gary.Stuhlfauth@epa.ohio.gov at our Central Office.

Location of Discharge/Receiving Water Use Classification

The Struthers wastewater treatment plant discharges to the Mahoning River at River Mile (RM) 14.32. The approximate location of the facility is shown in Figure 1.

This section of the Mahoning River is described by Ohio EPA River Code 18-001, USEPA River Reach #05030103-080, County: Mahoning, Ecoregion: Erie Drift Plain. The Mahoning River is designated for the following uses under Ohio's Water Quality Standards (OAC 3745-1-25): Warmwater Habitat (WWH), Agricultural Water Supply (AWS), Industrial Water Supply (IWS), and Class A Primary Contact Recreation (PCR).

Use designations define the goals and expectations of a waterbody. These goals are set for aquatic life protection, recreation use and water supply use, and are defined in the Ohio WQS (OAC 3745-1-07). The use designations for individual waterbodies are listed in rules -08 through -32 of the Ohio WQS. Once the goals are set, numeric water quality standards are developed to protect these uses. Different uses have different water quality criteria.

Use designations for aquatic life protection include habitats for coldwater fish and macroinvertebrates, warmwater aquatic life and waters with exceptional communities of warmwater organisms. These uses all meet the goals of the federal Clean Water Act. Ohio WQS also include aquatic life use designations for waterbodies which can not meet the Clean Water Act goals because of human-caused conditions that can not be remedied without causing fundamental changes to land use and widespread economic impact. The dredging and clearing of some small streams to support agricultural or urban drainage is the most common of these conditions. These streams are given Modified Warmwater or Limited Resource Water designations.

Recreation uses are defined by the depth of the waterbody and the potential for wading or swimming. Uses are defined for bathing waters, swimming/canoeing (Primary Contact) and wading only (Secondary Contact - generally waters too shallow for swimming or canoeing).

Water supply uses are defined by the actual or potential use of the waterbody. Public Water Supply designations apply near existing water intakes so that waters are safe to drink with standard treatment. Most other waters are designated for agricultural and industrial water supply.

Facility Description

The Struthers wastewater plant has an average design flow of 6.0 million gallons per day (MGD). The wet stream processes are influent pumping, screening, grit removal, scum removal, primary settling, preaeration, plastic media trickling filters, secondary clarification, chlorination and dechlorination. The City has converted six storm water tanks into an activated sludge train that treats septage and storm water. A portion of the daily wastewater flow is also directed into the activated sludge train to maintain the mixed liquor. Wastewater is disinfected in the final tank of the activated sludge train. It then combines with the trickling filter effluent prior to dechlorination and discharge through outfall 001. Solid stream processes include anaerobic digestion, sludge holding tanks, secondary sludge holding tanks, dewatering by belt press and disposal to a landfill. A new gas-to-electric generation system was activated in 2011 to produce electricity from digester gas. The electricity that is generated supplements the electricity requirements of the wastewater plant.

The Struthers plant is served by a separate sanitary sewer system.

Two categorical industrial users discharge an average of 0.010 MGD to the Struthers plant. The City does not have an Ohio EPA approved industrial pretreatment program.

The Struthers wastewater plant is in compliance with industrial storm water regulations. It is covered under Ohio EPA's industrial storm water general permit, permit number 3GR00937*EG. Coverage was issued on February 20, 2012, and the general permit expires December 31, 2016.

Description of Existing Discharge

Table 1 presents chemical specific data collected by Ohio EPA.

Table 2 presents a summary of unaltered Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR) data for outfall 3PD00026001. Data are presented for the period January 2006 through December 2011, and current permit limits are provided for comparison.

Table 3 summarizes the chemical specific data for outfall 001 by presenting the average and maximum Projected Effluent Quality (PEQ) values.

Table 4 summarizes the results of acute whole effluent toxicity tests of the final effluent.

Under the provisions of 40 CFR 122.21(j), the Director has waived the requirement for submittal of expanded effluent testing data as part of the NPDES renewal application. Ohio EPA has access to substantially identical information through the submission of annual pretreatment program reports and/or from effluent testing conducted by the Agency.

Assessment of Impact on Receiving Waters

Figure 2 presents the large river assessment unit results for the Mahoning River mainstem downstream from Eagle Creek to the Pennsylvania border from the *Ohio 2010 Integrated Water Quality Monitoring and Assessment Report* (March 8, 2010; Ohio EPA). The complete report is available at the following Ohio EPA web site:

<http://epa.ohio.gov/dsw/tmdl/2010IntReport/2010OhioIntegratedReport.aspx> .

The next Ohio EPA survey of the Mahoning River is scheduled for 2013. A TMDL (total maximum daily loads) study to address impairments identified during the survey is scheduled for 2016.

In September 2004, U.S. EPA Region 5 finalized the *Mahoning River Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) for Fecal Coliform Bacteria*. The TMDL addresses segments of the Mahoning River where the Primary Contact designated use was impaired by fecal coliform, including Eagle Creek, downstream to Mosquito Creek and Mill Creek, and further downstream to the Pennsylvania border. The report identified fecal coliform reductions necessary to meet the Primary Contact recreational use. This report is available at the following Ohio EPA web site:

<http://www.epa.ohio.gov/dsw/tmdl/MahoningRiverTMDL.aspx> .

The most recently published Ohio EPA survey of the Mahoning River basin is the *Biological and Water Quality Study of the Mahoning River Basin* (Ohio EPA Technical Report MAS/1995-12-14; May 1, 1996). This report is available at the following Ohio EPA web site:

<http://www.epa.ohio.gov/portals/35/documents/mahon94.pdf> .

Development of Water-Quality-Based Effluent Limits

Determining appropriate effluent concentrations is a multiple step process in which parameters are identified as likely to be discharged by a facility, evaluated with respect to Ohio water quality criteria, and examined to determine the likelihood that the existing effluent could violate the calculated limits. In addition, antidegradation and whole effluent toxicity issues must be addressed.

As in past modeling studies, all facilities discharging to the Mahoning River mainstem between the Leavittsburg dam and the Ohio-Pennsylvania boundary are considered interactive and are included in the wasteload allocation (WLA). The WLA contains a total of 23 outfalls from six municipal wastewater treatment plants (WWTP) and seven industrial facilities, as follows:

Warren Steel Holdings (CSC Industries)	Thomas Steel Strip
RG Steel - Warren	ArcelorMittal-Warren
Warren WWTP	RMI-Niles
GenOn Niles Power	Niles WWTP
McDonald Steel	Campbell WWTP
Youngstown WWTP	Lowellville WWTP
Struthers WWTP	

Four dischargers located on tributaries are allocated separately from the mainstem discharges: Meander Creek WWTP (Meander Creek), Girard WWTP (Little Squaw Creek), Mosquito Creek WWTP (Mosquito Creek), and Boardman WWTP (Mill Creek). Travel time to and distance from the Mahoning River are considered large enough that, for modeling purposes, the effluents from the respective treatment plants are considered non-interactive with the direct dischargers to the Mahoning. Effluents from these four treatment plants were allocated to meet water quality standards for the conditions, habitat, and use designation for their particular receiving waters and separate Permit Support Documents were prepared for each facility. Monitoring was conducted downstream of these dischargers or at the mouths of these tributaries, however, for inputs into the Mahoning River mainstem model. Figure 3 is a schematic of the Mahoning River study area.

Parameter Selection Effluent data for the Struthers wastewater plant were used to determine what parameters should undergo wasteload allocation. The parameters discharged are identified by the data available to Ohio EPA - Monthly Operating Report (MOR) data submitted by the permittee, compliance sampling data collected by Ohio EPA, and any other data submitted by the permittee, such as priority pollutant scans required by the NPDES application or by pretreatment, or other special conditions in the NPDES permit. The sources of effluent data used in this evaluation are as follows:

Self-monitoring data	January 2006 through September 2011
OEPA compliance sampling data	2010

The data were examined for outliers, and the following values were eliminated from the data set: zinc – one value of 264 ug/l; and total residual chlorine – once value of 80 ug/l. .

This data is evaluated statistically, and Projected Effluent Quality (PEQ) values are calculated for each pollutant. Average PEQ (PEQ_{avg}) values represent the 95th percentile of monthly average data, and maximum PEQ (PEQ_{max}) values represent the 95th percentile of all data points. The average and maximum PEQ values are presented in Table 3.

The PEQ values are used according to Ohio rules to compare to applicable water quality standards (WQS) and allowable wasteload allocation (WLA) values for each pollutant evaluated. Initially, PEQ values are compared to the applicable average and maximum WQS. If both PEQ values are less than 25 percent of the applicable WQS, the pollutant does not have the reasonable potential to cause or contribute to exceedances of WQS, and no

wasteload allocation is done for that parameter. If either PEQ_{avg} or PEQ_{max} is greater than 25 percent of the applicable WQS, a wasteload allocation is conducted to determine whether the parameter exhibits reasonable potential and needs to have a limit or if monitoring is required. See Table 10 for a summary of the screening results.

Water Quality Standards Ohio water quality standards (WQS) were used for all parameters except for chronic cadmium, chronic hexavalent chromium, chronic iron, chronic lead, chronic selenium and total dissolved solids. The Mahoning River enters Pennsylvania at about river mile (RM) 11.43, and Pennsylvania WQS must be met at that point. The Pennsylvania Aquatic Life criteria and Human Health criteria were met at the state line for all other parameters (metals and organics).

Flows in the Mahoning River Flows in the Mahoning River are contributed by a series of reservoirs in the headwaters and on Mosquito Creek, controlled and mostly owned by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Constructed several decades ago to provide adequate flow for the steel industry of the Mahoning River valley, the reservoirs are operated on a schedule to maintain specific seasonal flows at Leavittsburg and Youngstown. The operation of the reservoir system is discussed at length in earlier USEPA Mahoning River studies (Amendola et al., 1977; Schregardus and Amendola, 1984).

Modeling Approach and Wasteload Allocations Appropriate effluent concentrations for dischargers to the Mahoning River were determined using two models: a Monte Carlo model for the six commonly allocated metals (cadmium, total chromium, copper, lead, nickel, and zinc) and the conventional Ohio EPA conservative parameter model (CONSWLA) for all other parameters. The models and their applications are discussed in the sections that follow and model inputs are presented.

Dissolved Metals Translators A dissolved metals translator (DMT) is the factor used to convert a dissolved metal aquatic life criterion to an effective total recoverable aquatic life criterion with which a total recoverable aquatic life allocation can be calculated as required in the NPDES permit process. Currently, a DMT is based on site- or area-specific field data; each field data sample consists of a total recoverable measurement paired with a dissolved metal measurement. For the Mahoning River, there were 5 such paired samples available applicable to copper, lead, and silver. To account for the limited quantity of data, the DMT for each of these metals was determined as the lower end of the 95% confidence interval (1-tail) about the geometric mean of the total recoverable-to-dissolved ratios of the sample pairs. A DMT for zinc, cadmium, chromium, and nickel could not be determined due to shortcomings in the data. Each DMT is metal-specific and is applied by multiplying the dissolved criteria by the DMT, resulting in total effective recoverable criteria which can be used in the wasteload allocation procedures.

The Monte Carlo Model

The application of the Monte Carlo method was limited to the six commonly allocated metals (cadmium, total chromium, copper, lead, nickel, and zinc). Previous allocations using the conventional Ohio EPA conservative parameter model resulted in stringent limits for these parameters that have been difficult for dischargers to maintain. As a result, Ohio EPA was asked to consider other methods for determining effluent limits that would adequately protect the river while allowing the dischargers some relief. The Monte Carlo method addresses these concerns, but does not guarantee more favorable discharge limits. This is the fifth permit cycle where a Monte Carlo method was used to determine the wasteload allocations for the six metals listed above.

Conventional water quality modeling methods project the receiving water pollutant concentration which will occur under critical low-flow conditions. The Monte Carlo probabilistic method, as applied to water quality modeling, projects the year-round probability distribution for the pollutant. This allows a more accurate determination of the frequency at which water quality criteria are violated or maintained. Conventional modeling methods, when applied to systems with numerous dischargers, may be overly conservative because they model all dischargers at their maximum permitted concentration. (The conventional methods assume that

all facilities will simultaneously discharge at their permit limits during critical stream flow conditions, the probability of which decreases significantly as the number of discharges increases.) The Monte Carlo method accounts for the independent variability of discharges as well as other model inputs.

The Monte Carlo model for the Mahoning River was originally developed by Limno-Tech, Inc., for their 1993 study to determine alternative copper limits for Thomas Strip Steel. The model combines the Monte Carlo statistical method with a multi-discharge mass-balance model and allows upstream flow to be input from a historical gaging station flow record to account for unusual flow fluctuations caused by the numerous upstream dams and reservoirs. Ohio EPA approved the alternative limits developed using this model and received permission to modify and apply the model in the future. The original model was written in 1992-1993 in Borland Pascal. For this permit cycle, the model has been modified by the Ohio EPA and re-written in the 'C' programming language.

River Hardness and Water Quality Criteria Water quality criteria for the six metals depends on instream hardness. Thus, hardness is a key element in determining effluent limits. A detailed analysis of the available hardness and flow data was conducted. This analysis revises and updates the Ohio EPA analysis previously performed in 2006. Stream hardness data was taken from the two main STORET stations on the Mahoning River main stem, at Leavittsburg, Ohio (RM 45.51) and at Lowellville, Ohio (RM 12.42). The hardness data for the two stations was analyzed for the period October 2000 to September 2010.

A linear correlation between the Leavittsburg USGS gaging station flow and instream hardness was determined for both STORET stations. These correlations were then used to calculate hardness as a function of river mile at 129 cfs (Leavittsburg 1Q10 low flow) and 136 cfs (7Q10 low flow).

$$\text{river hardness (mg/L)} = (-0.682)(\text{river mile}) + 185.82$$

$$\text{river hardness (mg/L)} = (-0.681)(\text{river mile}) + 185.62$$

Discharger hardness was calculated with these equations. This relationship established local river hardness for calculating outside-mixing-zone, hardness-dependent criteria in the Monte Carlo model. Inside-mixing-zone, maximum criteria were determined with effluent hardness data when available, or outside-mixing-zone hardness when effluent data was unavailable.

Table 5 contains the water quality criteria for the six metals in the vicinity of the Struthers wastewater plant.

This Monte Carlo method uses a seven-day averaging period with a ten-year return period for meeting chronic (average) water quality criteria. A one-day averaging period with a ten-year return period is used for meeting the acute (maximum) water quality criteria. Since the chronic aquatic life criteria are less than or approximate to both the agriculture and human health criteria and since the return periods for both agriculture and human health criteria would be longer than ten years, the allocations that meet the average aquatic life criteria will be protective of the agriculture and human health criteria as well.

Federal rules require that a downstream state's water quality criteria be considered when calculating effluent limits. The Pennsylvania state line is at RM 11.43. Pennsylvania's standards are the same as Ohio's for copper, total chromium, nickel, and zinc. However, Pennsylvania's standards for cadmium and lead are more stringent than Ohio's and had to be considered. Since Pennsylvania uses, in effect, a one hundred-day return period, Ohio's acute criteria for those two metals, in combination with a ten-year return period, still meet Pennsylvania's water quality criteria. However, the same is not true for the chronic criteria.

Data Analysis for the Monte Carlo Model The Monte Carlo method accounts for individual system component variability by generating probability distributions that predict a range of possible input conditions. These distributions are derived from the mean and the coefficient of variation input by the user and based on field data for each of these components. Table 6 lists the calculated mean and coefficient of variation for such system characteristics as background/ambient concentrations and discharger and tributary flows.

The Conservative Substance Wasteload Allocation Model (CONSWLA)

The CONSWLA model was used to allocate all parameters not included in the Monte Carlo model. CONSWLA is the model Ohio EPA typically uses in multiple discharger situations. Different from the Monte Carlo model previously described, CONSWLA model inputs for flow are fixed at their critical low levels and inputs for effluent flow are fixed at their design or 50th percentile levels. Background concentrations are fixed at a representative value (generally a 50th percentile).

Pollutants are allocated by a mass-balance method. Wasteload allocations using this method are done using the following general equation: Discharger WLA = (downstream flow x WQS) - (upstream flow x background concentration). Discharger WLAs are divided by the discharge flow so that the allocations are expressed as concentrations. This technique is appropriate when data bases are unavailable to generate statistical distributions for inputs (like those used in the Monte Carlo method) and if the parameters modeled are conservative.

Wasteload Allocation For those parameters that require a WLA, the results are based on the uses assigned to the receiving waterbody in OAC 3745-1. Dischargers are allocated pollutant loadings/concentrations based on the Ohio Water Quality Standards (OAC 3745-1).

The applicable waterbody uses for this facility’s discharge and the associated stream design flows are as follows:

Aquatic life (WWH)		
Toxics (metals, organics, etc.)	Average	Annual 7Q10
	Maximum	Annual 1Q10
Ammonia	Average	Summer 30Q10
		Winter 30Q10
Agricultural Water Supply		Harmonic mean flow
Human Health (nondrinking)		Harmonic mean flow

Allocations are developed using a percentage of stream design flow as specified in Table 8, and allocations cannot exceed the Inside Mixing Zone Maximum criteria.

Ohio’s water quality standard implementation rules [OAC 3745-2-05(A)(2)(d)(iv)] required a phase out of mixing zones for bioaccumulative chemicals of concern (BCCs) as of November 15, 2010. This rule applied statewide. Mercury is a BCC. The mixing zone phase-out means that as of November 15, 2010 all dischargers requiring mercury limits in their NPDES permit must meet water quality standards at the end-of-pipe, which are 12 ng/l (average) and 1700 ng/l (maximum) in the Ohio River basin.

The data used in the CONSWLA modeling are listed in Tables 7 and 8. The wasteload allocation results to maintain all applicable criteria are presented in Table 9. This table includes results from both the Monte Carlo and the CONSWLA modeling.

The modeling procedure used to evaluate the current ammonia-nitrogen discharges from the Struthers plant, which are at levels typical of a secondary treatment plant, was not rigorous enough to use as the basis for water

quality-based effluent limits. Since 2008, the plant has been doing a better job of reducing ammonia-N levels in the effluent.

Whole Effluent Toxicity WLA Whole effluent toxicity (WET) is the total toxic effect of an effluent on aquatic life measured directly with a toxicity test. Acute WET measures short term effects of the effluent while chronic WET measures longer term and potentially more subtle effects of the effluent.

Water quality standards for WET are expressed in Ohio's narrative "free from" WQS rule [OAC 3745-1-04(D)]. These "free froms" are translated into toxicity units (TUs) by the associated WQS Implementation Rule (OAC 3745-2-09). Wasteload allocations can then be calculated using TUs as if they were water quality criteria.

The wasteload allocation calculations for WET are similar to those for aquatic life criteria - using the chronic toxicity unit (TU_c) and 7Q10 flow for the average and the acute toxicity unit (TU_a) and 1Q10 flow for the maximum. These values are the levels of effluent toxicity that should not cause instream toxicity during critical low-flow conditions. An assessment of biological and hydraulic data in the vicinity of the Warren wastewater plant indicated that the effluent acute toxicity is interactive with ISG Mittal Steel and the Warren Consolidated Industries discharges. For the Warren wastewater plant, the wasteload allocation values are 1.0 TU_a and 32.9 TU_c .

The chronic toxicity unit (TU_c) is defined as 100 divided by the IC_{25} :

$$TU_c = 100/IC_{25}$$

This equation applies outside the mixing zone for warmwater, modified warmwater, exceptional warmwater, coldwater, and seasonal salmonid use designations except when the following equation is more restrictive (*Ceriodaphnia dubia* only):

$$TU_c = 100/\text{geometric mean of NOEC and LOEC}$$

The acute toxicity unit (TU_a) is defined as 100 divided by the LC_{50} for the most sensitive test species:

$$TU_a = 100/LC_{50}$$

This equation applies outside the mixing zone for warmwater, modified warmwater, exceptional warmwater, coldwater, and seasonal salmonid use designations.

Reasonable Potential/ Effluent Limits/Hazard Management Decisions

After appropriate effluent limits are calculated, the reasonable potential of the discharger to violate the water quality standards must be determined. Each parameter is examined and placed in a defined "group". Parameters that do not have a water quality standard or do not require a wasteload allocation based on the initial screening are assigned to either group 1 or 2. For the allocated parameters, the preliminary effluent limits (PEL) based on the most restrictive average and maximum wasteload allocations are selected from Table 9. The average PEL (PEL_{avg}) is compared to the average PEQ (PEQ_{avg}) from Table 3, and the PEL_{max} is compared to the PEQ_{max} . Based on the calculated percentage of the allocated value [$(PEQ_{avg} \div PEL_{avg}) \times 100$, or $(PEQ_{max} \div PEL_{max}) \times 100$], the parameters are assigned to group 3, 4, or 5. The groupings are listed in Table 10.

The final effluent limits are determined by evaluating the groupings in conjunction with other applicable rules and regulations. Table 11 presents the final effluent limits and monitoring requirements proposed for Struthers outfall 3PD00026001 and the basis for their recommendation.

Based on best engineering judgment, it is proposed that the current limits for dissolved oxygen, total suspended solids, 5-day carbonaceous biochemical oxygen demand (CBOD₅) and total residual chlorine continue. The limits for suspended solids and CBOD₅ are technology-based treatment standards included in 40 CFR Part 133, Secondary Treatment Regulation. Secondary treatment is defined by the Best Practicable Waste Treatment Technology criteria, which are minimum standards required of all publicly owned treatment works.

Continued monitoring of ammonia-nitrogen is proposed. Since 2008, the plant has been doing a better job of reducing ammonia-N levels in the effluent. The results of nine acute whole effluent toxicity tests of the Struthers effluent conducted from April 2006 through October 2010 did not show any evidence of toxicity, which can be a problem for secondary treatment plants.

Limits proposed for oil and grease, pH, and *Escherichia coli* are based on Water Quality Standards (OAC 3745-1-07). Class A Primary Contact Recreation *E. coli* standards apply to the Mahoning River.

The 2010 Ohio Integrated Water Quality Monitoring and Assessment Report (Ohio EPA) lists the Mahoning River as impaired for aquatic life. Nutrients and organic enrichment/dissolved oxygen are listed as causes of impairment, and major municipal point sources are listed among the sources. Considering this information and the fact that municipal wastewater treatment plants discharge a nutrient load to the river, continued monitoring for phosphorus, nitrite+nitrate and total Kjeldahl nitrogen is proposed based on best engineering judgment. Monitoring for phosphorus and nitrite+nitrate at the upstream and downstream stations also is proposed. The purpose of the monitoring is to maintain a nutrient data set for use in the future TMDL (total maximum daily loads) study.

The Ohio EPA risk assessment (Table 10) places cadmium and mercury in group 5. This placement as well as the data in Tables 2 and 3 indicate that the reasonable potential to exceed WQS exists and limits are necessary to protect water quality. For these parameters, the PEQ is greater than 100 percent of the wasteload allocation or the PEQ is between 75 and 100 percent of the wasteload allocation and certain conditions exist that increase the risk to the environment. Pollutants that meet this requirement must have permit limits under OAC Rule 3745-33-07(A)(1). The proposed limits are based on wasteload allocation (Table 9).

Under its current permit, Struthers had coverage under Ohio's mercury variance rule and had a monthly average variance-based limit of 38 ng/l. To be eligible for coverage under the mercury variance rule, a discharger must maintain a running annual average mercury effluent concentration equal to or less than 12 mg/l. Effluent data show that about half of the mercury data reported by the City is greater than 12 ng/l, and the City is not consistently able to achieve the 12 ng/l average annual mercury effluent concentration. As a result, the City is no longer eligible for variance coverage.

The Agency proposes the following provisions in regards to mercury:

- An interim monthly average mercury limit of 31 ng/l;
- A requirement for the City to implement a pollutant minimization program for mercury; and
- A final monthly average mercury limit of 12 ng/l that becomes effective 36 months from the effective date of the permit.

The City has the option to apply for an individual variance to the mercury water quality standard. Variances can be issued for certain reasons, one being that having to comply with a limit necessary to meet water quality standards would result in "substantial and widespread economic and social impact." U.S. EPA guidance is available on the information that a discharger must submit and the state must compile as part of the application for an individual variance. All variances must be approved by U.S. EPA.

Based on best engineering judgment, monitoring is proposed for total filterable residue (total dissolved solids).

Ohio EPA evaluated instream total dissolved solids (TDS) data collected in the Mahoning River at Lowellville, approximately one mile from the Ohio-Pennsylvania border (n = 128, range = 164 – 650 mg/l, period of record = January 1999 – January 2012). The Agency calculated summer and winter concentrations to characterize instream TDS levels. These concentrations are 95th percentiles of the monthly averages and daily values of the data. The calculated values are: monthly average – 364 mg/l (S), 456 mg/l (W); maximum – 423 mg/l (S), 587 mg/l (W).

These values are lower than the monthly average and maximum Pennsylvania TDS standards, 500 mg/l and 750 mg/l. This demonstrates that currently there is not reasonable potential for the instream TDS concentration to exceed the Pennsylvania standards at Lowellville, close to the state line. Based on this finding, water quality based effluent limits for TDS are not currently necessary for Ohio wastewater facilities discharging at their existing TDS loads.

Ohio EPA is pursuing a plan to begin regular TDS monitoring at a site in the lower part of the Mahoning River in Ohio. This monitoring would provide additional baseline data on ambient TDS concentrations with Ohio facilities discharging at their existing TDS loads. The Agency will consider options for reducing the TDS load to the Mahoning River if an upward trend in the ambient concentration is observed

Ohio EPA will evaluate proposals for new or increased TDS loadings to the Mahoning River from Ohio NPDES dischargers, which could be subject to provisions of Ohio's antidegradation rule (OAC 3745-1-05).

Ohio EPA risk assessment (Table 10) places total chromium, dissolved hexavalent chromium, copper, lead, nickel and zinc in groups 2 and 3. This placement as well as the data in Tables 2 and 3 support that these parameters do not have the reasonable potential to contribute to WQS exceedances, and limits are not necessary to protect water quality. Monitoring is proposed to document that these pollutants continue to remain at low levels.

Limits and monitoring requirements proposed for the disposal of sewage sludge by the following management practices are based on OAC 3745-40: land application, removal to sanitary landfill or transfer to another facility with an NPDES permit.

Additional monitoring requirements proposed at the final effluent, influent and upstream/downstream stations are included for all facilities in Ohio and vary according to the type and size of the discharge. In addition to permit compliance, this data is used to assist in the evaluation of effluent quality and treatment plant performance and for designing plant improvements and conducting future stream studies.

Whole Effluent Toxicity Reasonable Potential

Annual acute toxicity monitoring is proposed for the life of the permit. Evaluating the toxicity data presented in Table 4 and other pertinent data under the provisions of OAC 3745-33-07(B) placed the Struthers wastewater plant in Category 4 with respect to whole effluent toxicity. While this indicates that the plant's effluent does not currently pose a toxicity problem, annual toxicity testing is proposed consistent with the minimum monitoring requirements at OAC 3754-33-07(B)(11). The proposed monitoring will adequately characterize toxicity in the plant's effluent.

Other Requirements

Schedule of Compliance

A six month compliance schedule is proposed for the City to submit a technical justification for either revising its local industrial user limits or retaining its existing local limits.

Ohio EPA water quality modeling indicated an average summer ammonia-N concentration as low as 5.6 mg/l could be necessary to protect the water quality standard for ammonia toxicity. The Struthers plant currently discharges ammonia-N at concentrations higher than this, though since 2008, the plant has been doing a better job of reducing effluent ammonia-N levels. A 36 month compliance schedule is proposed for the City to evaluate and implement measures to maximize the ability of its existing treatment facilities to reduce effluent ammonia-N concentrations during the summer months.

Sanitary Sewer Overflow Reporting

Provisions for reporting sanitary sewer overflows (SSOs) are again proposed in this permit. These provisions include: the reporting of the system-wide number of SSO occurrences on monthly operating reports; telephone notification of Ohio EPA and the local health department, and 5-day follow up written reports for certain high risk SSOs; and preparation of an annual report that is submitted to Ohio EPA and made available to the public. Many of these provisions were already required under the "Noncompliance Notification", "Records Retention", and "Facility Operation and Quality Control" general conditions in Part III of Ohio NPDES permits.

Operator Certification

Operator certification requirements have been included in Part II, Item A of the permit in accordance with rules adopted in December 2006. These rules require the Struthers wastewater plant to have a Class IV wastewater treatment plant operator in charge of the sewage treatment plant operations discharging through outfall 001.

Operator of Record

In December 2006, Ohio Administrative Code rule revisions became effective that affect the requirements for certified operators for sewage collection systems and treatment works regulated under NPDES permits. Part II, Item A of this NPDES permit is included to implement rule 3745-7-02 of the Ohio Administrative Code (OAC). It requires the permittee to designate one or more operator of record to oversee the technical operation of the treatment works.

Outfall Signage

Part II of the permit includes requirements for the permittee to place a sign at each outfall to the Mahoning River providing information about the discharge. Signage at outfalls is required pursuant to Ohio Administrative Code 3745-33-08(A).

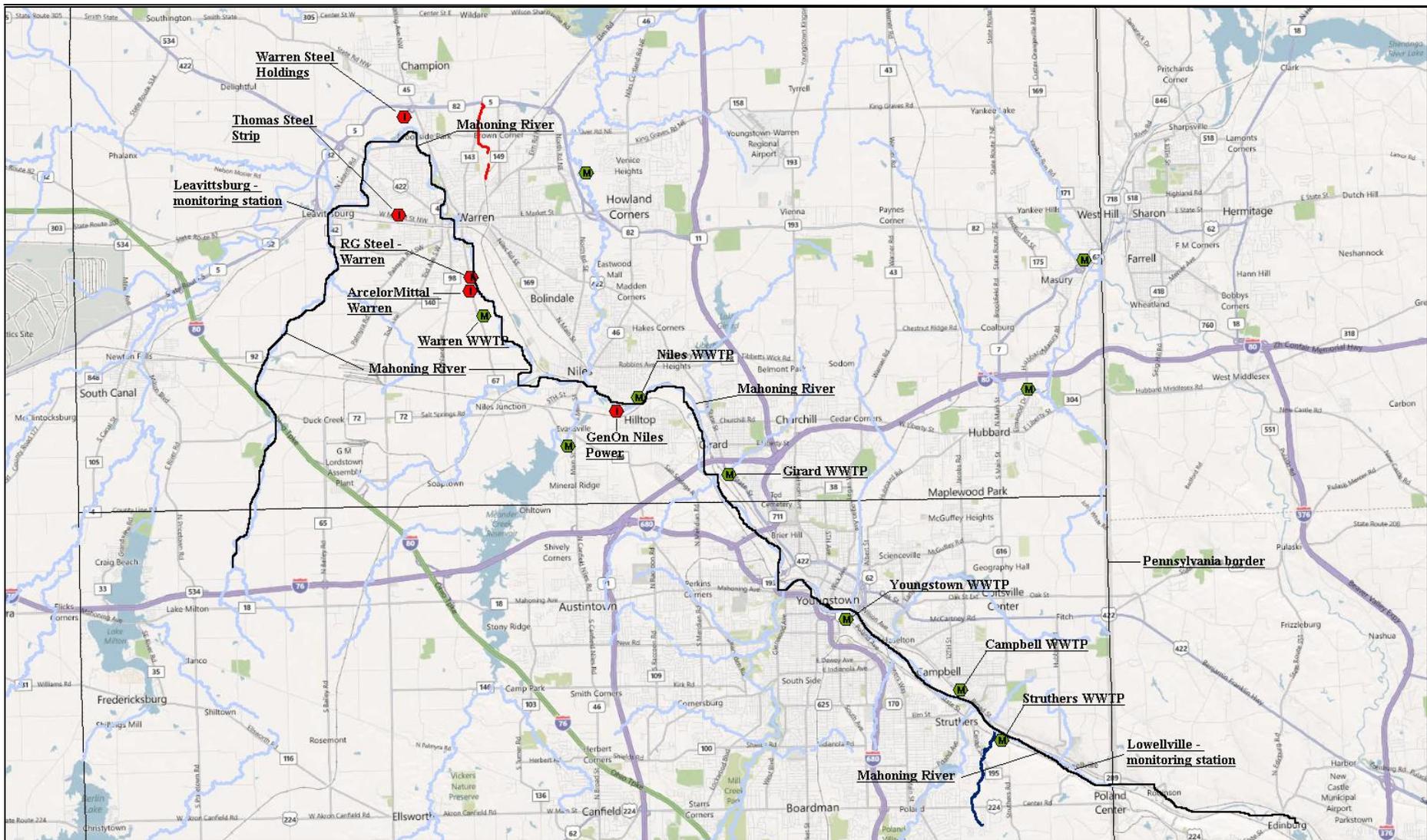


Figure 1. Location of Struthers wastewater treatment plant and other Mahoning dischargers.

Table 1. Effluent Characterization Using Ohio EPA Data

Summary of analytical results for Struthers outfall 3PD00026001. Units ug/l unless otherwise noted; OEPA = data from analyses by Ohio EPA.

PARAMETER	OEPA 10/05/10
Arsenic	2.0
Barium	17
Chloride (mg/l)	128
Chromium	4.3
Copper	9.4
Dissolved solids, total (mg/l)	652
Iron	215
Nickel	5.0
Nitrite+Nitrate-N (mg/l)	13.6
Phosphorus, T (mg/l)	2.63
Strontium	320
Zinc	41
Bromodichloromethane	1.39
Bromomethane	3.91
Chloroform	1.89
Tetrachloroethene	0.59

Table 2. Effluent Characterization Using Self-Monitoring Data

Summary of current permit limits and unaltered discharge monitoring report data for Struthers outfall 3PD00026001 (January 2006 – September 2011). All values are based on annual records unless otherwise indicated. * = For minimum pH, 5th percentile shown in place of 50th percentile; ** = For dissolved oxygen, 5th percentile shown in place of 95th percentile; a = weekly average.

Parameter	Season	Units	Current Permit Limits		# Obs.	Percentiles		Data Range
			30 day	Daily		50 th	95 th	
Water Temperature	Annual	C	Monitor		2095	14.9	21.2	7.1-22.6
Dissolved Oxygen	Summer	mg/l		5.0 min	1072	6.46	5.1**	5-8.59
Dissolved Oxygen	Winter	mg/l		5.0 min	1026	7.49	5.6**	4.85-55.9
Total Suspended Solids	Annual	mg/l	30	45 ^a	857	15.6	40.4	0-107
Oil and Grease, Total	Annual	mg/l		10	88	5.8	9.52	0-16.8
Oil and Grease, Hexane	Annual	mg/l		10	76	3.8	8.3	0-16.7
Nitrogen, Ammonia (NH3)	Summer	mg/l	Monitor		420	4.7	17.6	0.29-25
Nitrogen, Ammonia (NH3)	Winter	mg/l	Monitor		429	5.1	13	0-17.7
Nitrogen Kjeldahl, Total	Annual	mg/l	Monitor		148	8.13	18.7	2.48-29.2
Nitrite Plus Nitrate, Total	Annual	mg/l	Monitor		144	8.87	18.5	0-22.7
Phosphorus, Total (P)	Annual	mg/l	Monitor		303	2.76	7.33	0.56-7.56
Nickel, Total Recoverable	Annual	ug/l	Monitor		75	1.77	6.44	0-12.1
Silver, Total Recoverable	Annual	ug/l	--		31	1.1	2.8	0-3.08
Zinc, Total Recoverable	Annual	ug/l	Monitor		74	37.9	71.5	0-264
Cadmium, Total Recoverable	Annual	ug/l	Monitor		74	0	0.32	0-3.1
Lead, Total Recoverable	Annual	ug/l	Monitor		75	0.72	4.07	0-20.5
Chromium, Total Recoverable	Annual	ug/l	Monitor		74	1.96	4.94	0-7.96
Copper, Total Recoverable	Annual	ug/l	Monitor		74	9.85	23.1	0-41.1
Chromium, Dissolved Hexavalent	Annual	ug/l	Monitor		68	0	10.1	0-15.8
Fecal Coliform	Annual	#/100 ml	1000	2000 ^a	423	25	1020	0-14300
Flow Rate	Summer	MGD	Monitor		1073	4.05	6.91	1.99-9.43
Flow Rate	Winter	MGD	Monitor		1025	4.84	7.95	2.04-10.2
Flow Rate	Annual	MGD	Monitor		2098	4.43	7.62	1.99-10.2
Chlorine, Total Residual	Annual	mg/l		0.024	1073	0	0	0-0.08
Mercury, Total (Low Level)	Annual	ng/l	38	1700	63	12.8	35.4	2.21-78.7
Mercury, Total (Low Level)	Annual	ng/l	38	1700	10	10.6	20.7	7.02-23
pH, Maximum	Annual	S.U.		9.0	2095	7.33	7.62	6.33-8.11
pH, Minimum	Annual	S.U.		6.5	2095	6.85*	7.49	6.3-9.89
CBOD 5 day	Summer	mg/l	25	40 ^a	418	10.2	25.8	0-43
CBOD 5 day	Winter	mg/l	25	40 ^{a54}	427	12.1	29.3	0-57.9

Table 3. Projected Effluent Quality Values

Parameter	Units		# of Samples	# > MDL	Average PEQ	Maximum PEQ
<u>Self-Monitoring (DMR) Data</u>						
Ammonia	mg/L	S	288	288	11.29	23.72
Ammonia	mg/L	W	222	221	9.095	19.21
Nitrite+Nitrate ^B	mg/L		145	143	17.36	25.50
Phosphorus ^B	mg/L		304	304	4.773	6.653
Nickel ^B	µg/L		76	43	5.037	7.877
Zinc ^B	µg/L		74	73	55.41	73.15
Cadmium	µg/L		74	8	2.037	2.790
Lead	µg/L		75	45	3.689	5.622
Chromium, tot. rec. ^B	µg/L		75	62	4.297	6.591
Copper ^B	µg/L		75	69	18.61	27.20
Chromium ⁺⁶ , diss.	µg/L		68	6	8.615	12.84
Chlorine, tot. res.	µg/L		1072	0	--	--
Mercury	ng/L		63	63	30.81	47.50
<u>OEPA Data</u>						
Arsenic	µg/L		1	1	9.052	12.4
Barium	µg/L		1	1	76.94	105.4
Chloride	mg/L		1	1	579.3	793.6
Total Dissolved Solids	mg/L		1	1	2951.	4042.
Iron	µg/L		1	1	973.1	1333.
Strontium	µg/L		1	1	1448.	1984.
Bromodichloromethane ^A	µg/L		1	1	6.291	8.618
Bromomethane	µg/L		1	1	17.70	24.24
Chloroform	µg/L		1	1	8.554	11.72
Tetrachloroethene ^A	µg/L		1	1	2.670	3.658

^A Carcinogen^B OEPA data was combined with the DMR data.

Table 4. Summary of Acute Toxicity Test Results

Test Date(a)	<i>Ceriodaphnia dubia</i> 48 hours			<i>Fathead Minnows</i> 96 hours		
	UP ^b	TUa ^h	NF ⁱ	UP ^b	TUa ^h	NF ⁱ
04/04/06(E)	BD	BD	NT	BD	BD	NT
10/10/06(E)	BD	BD	NT	BD	BD	NT
10/15/07(E)	BD	BD	NT	BD	BD	NT
04/30/08(E)	BD	BD	NT	BD	BD	NT
10/08/08(E)	BD	BD	NT	35	BD	NT
10/06/09(E)	BD	BD	NT	BD	BD	NT
10/05/10(E)	BD	BD	NT	BD	BD	NT
05/10, 11/10(O)*	BD	BD	BD	BD	BD	BD
10/04, 05/10(O)*	BD	BD	BD	BD	BD	BD

^a O = EPA test; E = entity test

^b UP = upstream control water

^h TUa = acute toxicity units

BD = below detection

ⁱ NF = near field sample in Mahoning River

NT = not tested

* = acute screening test

Division of Surface Water Large River Assessment Unit Summary

Overview Information

Waterbody: Mahoning River
 Segment: Eagle Creek to Pennsylvania border
 Length: 37.00 miles
 Priority Points: 6
 Monitoring Scheduled: 2013
 TMDL Scheduled: 2016

Aquatic Life Use Assessment

Reporting Category: 5x
 Aquatic Life Uses: WWH
 Sampling Years: 1997, 2002, 2003, 2006
 Sites Monitored: 14
 Total Miles Monitored: 16.00
 Assessment Unit Score: 47.5
 Miles in Full Attainment: 7.60 (47.50%)
 Miles in Partial Attainment: 3.40 (21.30%)
 Miles in Non Attainment: 5.00 (31.20%)

Most Recent Data

Year Assessed	Station Name	River Mile	Drainage Area	Aquatic Life Use	Attainment Status
2006	MAHONING R. AT WARREN @ 3RD ISLAND DST. SUMMIT ST.	39.08	594	WWH	Full
2006	MAHONING R. AT WARREN @ WEST MARKET ST.	38.26	594	WWH	Full
2006	MAHONING R. NEAR YOUNGSTOWN SHEET & TUBE, CAMPBELL	17	1018	WWH	Non
2006	MAHONING R. AT LTV STEEL CAMPBELL @ POLAND AVE.	16.46	1022	WWH	Non
2006	MAHONING R. DST. LTV 039, UPST. 041	16.1	1022	WWH	Non

Causes of Impairment

cause unknown
 chlorine
 direct habitat alterations
 metals
 nutrients
 oil and grease
 organic enrichment/DO
 priority organics
 thermal modifications

Sources of Impairment

combined sewer overflows
 contaminated sediments
 dam construction - development
 flow regulation/modification - development
 hazardous wastes
 major municipal point source
 minor industrial point source
 source unknown
 spills
 urban runoff/storm sewers (NPS)

Comments: The WWH aquatic life use for the Mahoning River mainstem was listed as impaired based on historical data in the 2006 Integrated Report. For the 2008 report, aquatic life data from several small surveys conducted between 1997 and 2006 were included to update the mainstem assessment. Mainstem coverage was somewhat limited in that only 16 of 37 mainstem miles were considered assessed based on these small surveys. Aquatic life use status of the remaining 21 miles remains unknown. Identified causes and sources based on the intensive survey conducted in 1994 were carried over to this Integrated Report.

Recreation Use Assessment

Reporting Category: 3i
 Assessment Unit Score: Not calculated

Public Drinking Water Supply Assessment

Reporting Category: 0
 Cause of Impairment: None
 Nitrate Watch List: No

Fish Tissue Assessment

Reporting Category: 5
 Causes of Impairment: PCBs
 PCB Concentration: 531 ppb

Figure 2. Large River Assessment Unit Summary from the *Ohio 2010 Integrated Water Quality Monitoring and Assessment Report*.

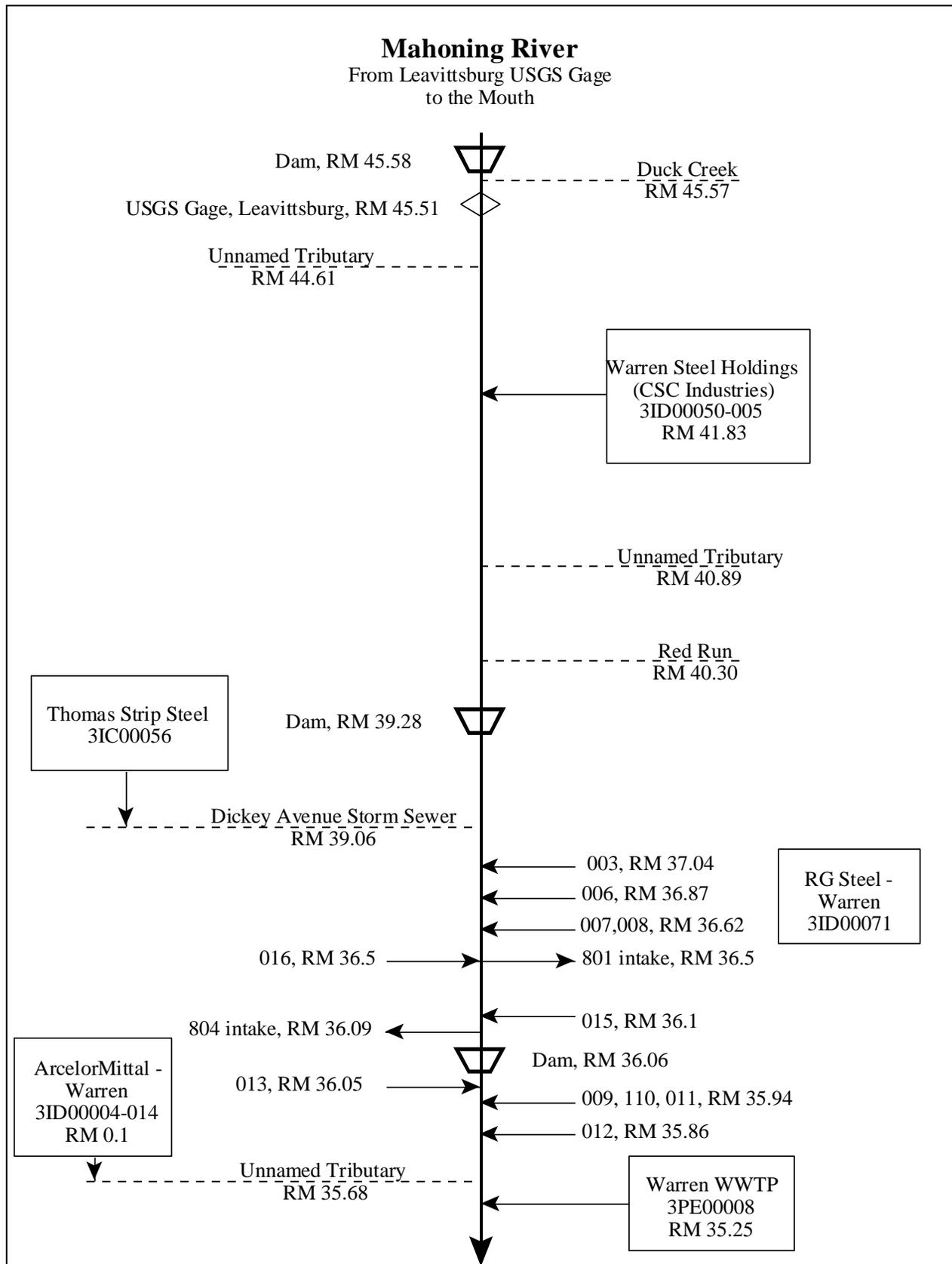


Figure 3. Mahoning River Study Area

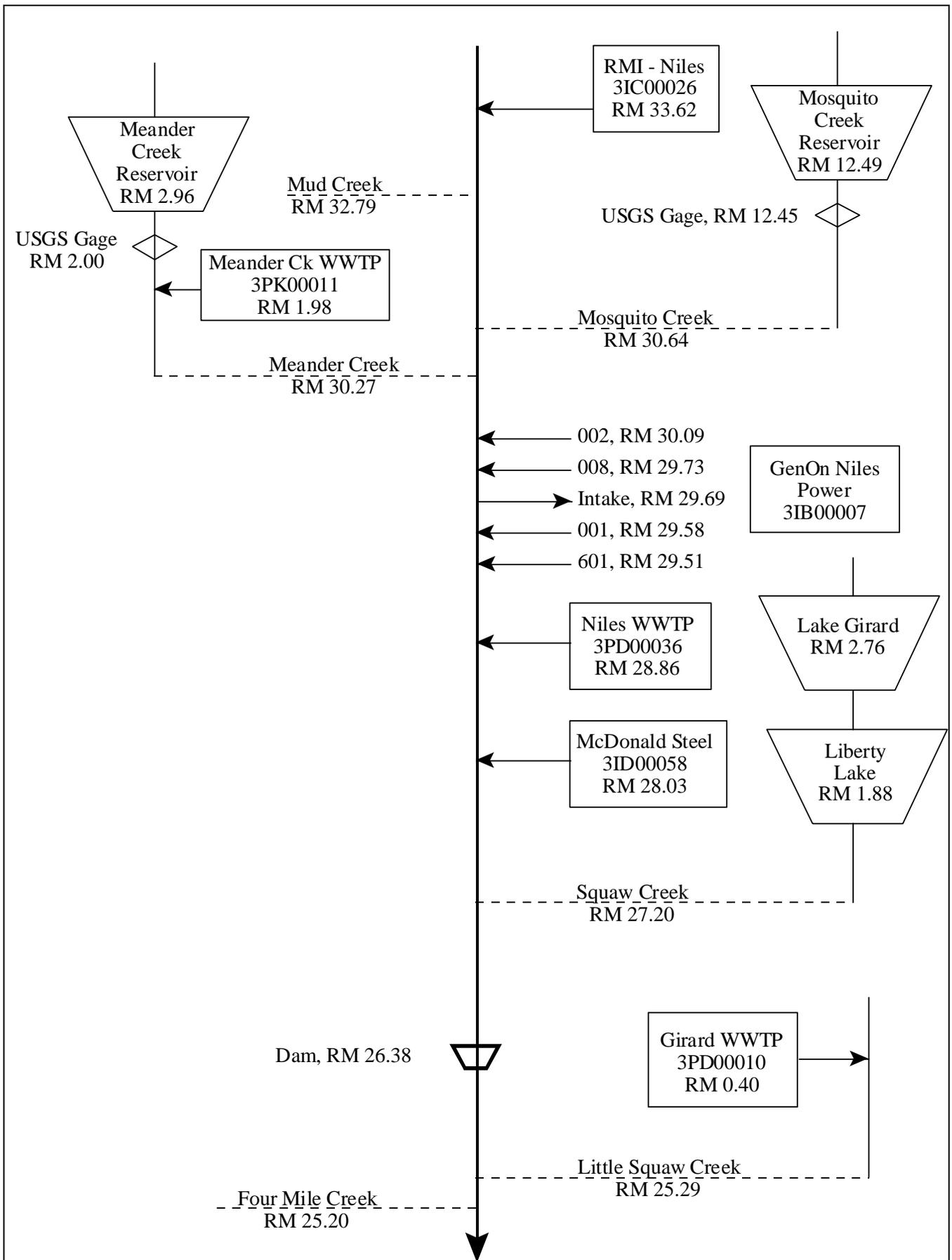


Figure 3. Mahoning River Study Area (Continued)

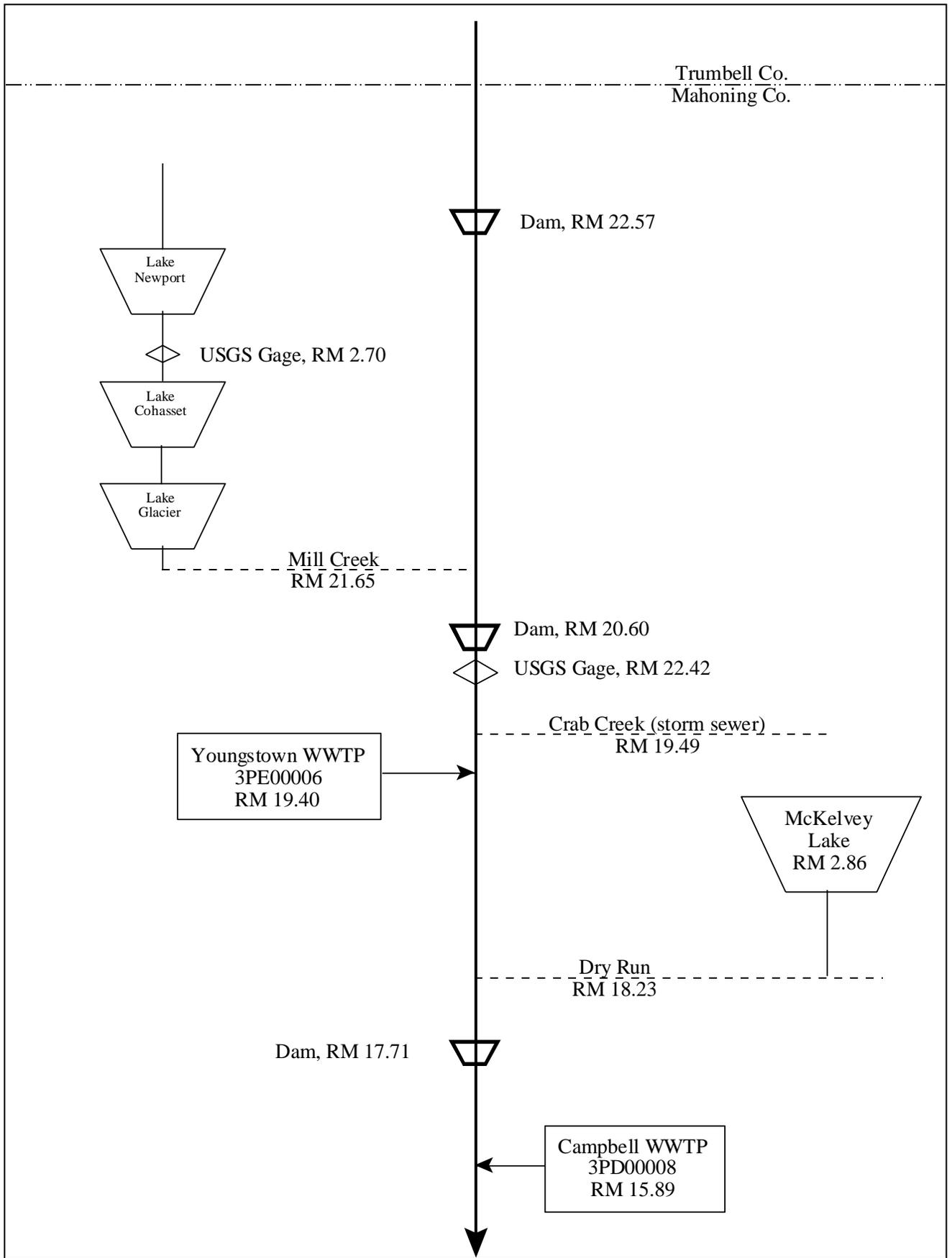


Figure 3. Mahoning River Study Area (Continued)

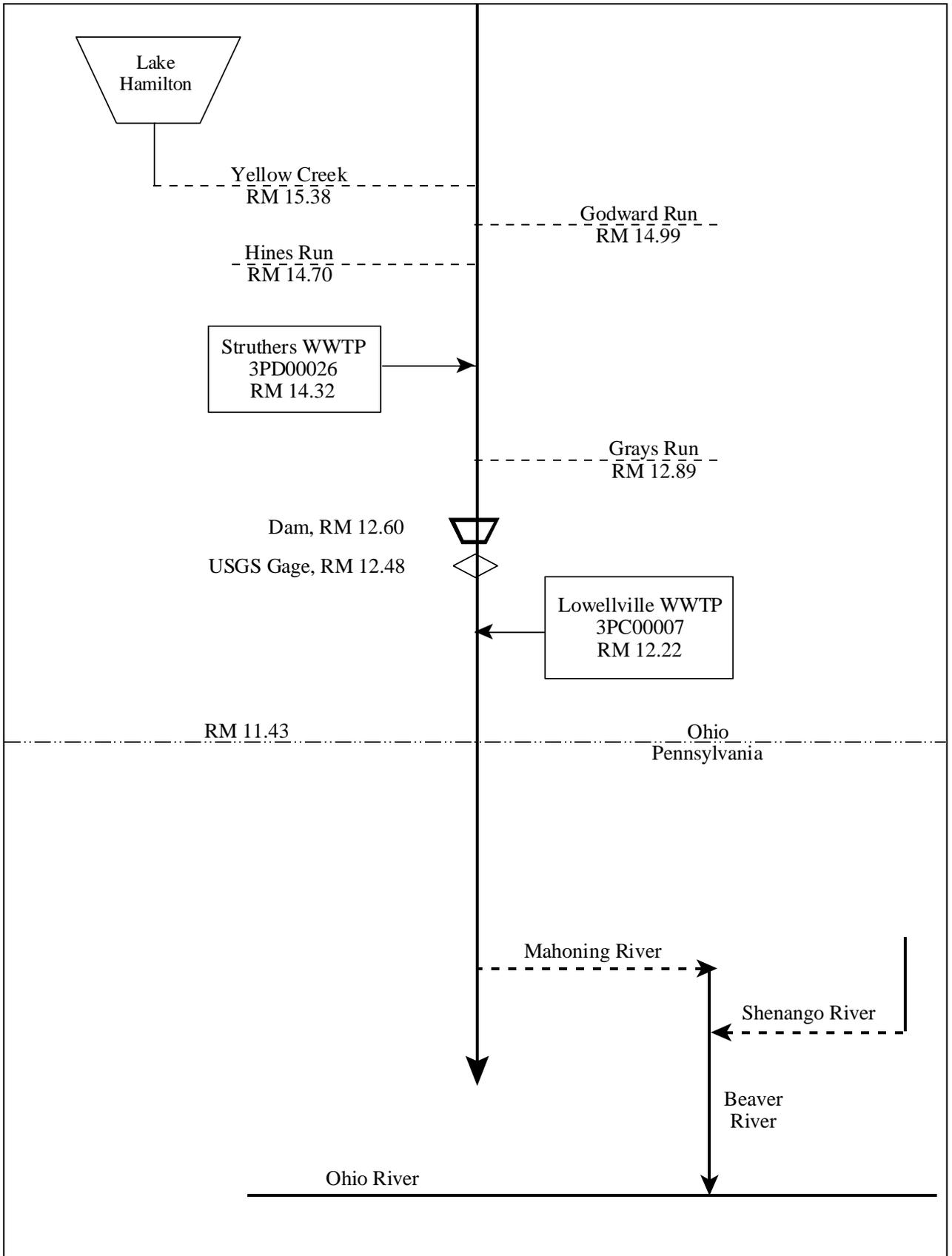


Figure 3. Mahoning River Study Area (Continued)

Table 5. Water Quality Criteria for Monte Carlo Model Parameters (Struthers WWTP)

Parameter (µg/L)	Outside Mixing Zone Criteria			Maximum Zone Life ^B	Inside Mixing Maximum ^C
	Human Health	Aquatic culture ^A	Aquatic Life ^B		
Cadmium	-	50.	0.4 ^E	8.5	23.
Chromium, total	-	100.	140.	2900.	7100.
Copper	1300.	500.	16. ^D	25. ^D	61.
Lead	-	100.	6.0 ^{D,E}	260. ^D	700.
Nickel	610. ^E	200.	84.	760.	1900.
Zinc	69000.	25000.	190.	190.	480.

^A There is some uncertainty regarding the return period used to develop the Agricultural Water Supply (AWS) criteria. Therefore, the AWS criteria for the Monte Carlo model are presented for information purposes only.

^B Based on river hardness of 176 mg/L.

^C Based on effluent hardness of 228 mg/L.

^D Effective Criteria Based on Application of Dissolved Metal Translator.

^E Pennsylvania WQC at the state line.

Table 6. Monte Carlo Model Inputs

Parameter	Mean	Coefficient of Variation		Source
		Acute	Chronic	
Mahoning River at Leavittsburg				
Flow (MGD) ^A	--	--	--	USGS
Cadmium (µg/L)	0.0	0.0	0.0	STORET
Chromium, total (µg/L)	0.0	0.0	0.0	STORET
Copper (µg/L)	2.1	0.31	0.12	STORET
Lead (µg/L)	0.0	0.0	0.0	STORET
Nickel (µg/L)	2.8	0.18	0.07	STORET
Zinc (µg/L)	0.0	0.0	0.0	STORET
Mosquito Creek at mouth				
Flow (MGD)	80.9	1.44	0.54	USGS/SWIMS
Cadmium (µg/L)	0.25	2.7	1.0	STORET
Chromium, total (µg/L)	0.0	0.0	0.0	STORET
Copper (µg/L)	2.4	0.7	0.27	STORET
Lead (µg/L)	0.0	0.0	0.0	STORET
Nickel (µg/L)	0.94	0.65	0.25	STORET
Zinc (µg/L)	11.3	1.3	0.47	STORET
Meander Creek at mouth				
Flow (MGD)	3.61	0.3	0.11	SWIMS
Cadmium (µg/L)	0.0	0.0	0.0	STORET
Chromium, total (µg/L)	1.3	0.97	0.37	STORET
Copper (µg/L)	6.0	0.92	0.35	STORET
Lead (µg/L)	0.0	0.0	0.0	STORET
Nickel (µg/L)	8.1	1.4	0.53	STORET
Zinc (µg/L)	40.	1.3	0.48	STORET
Little Squaw Creek at mouth				
Flow (MGD)	3.6	0.44	0.17	SWIMS
Cadmium (µg/L)	0.15	2.7	1.0	SWIMS
Chromium, total (µg/L)	3.2	0.35	0.13	SWIMS
Copper (µg/L)	12.	0.60	0.23	SWIMS
Lead (µg/L)	0.0	0.0	0.0	SWIMS
Nickel (µg/L)	9.8	0.87	0.33	SWIMS
Zinc (µg/L)	64.	0.80	0.30	SWIMS

Table 6. Monte Carlo Model Inputs (continued)

Parameter	Mean	Coefficient of Variation		Source
		Acute	Chronic	
Mill Creek at mouth				
Flow (MGD)	44.5	2.2	0.84	USGS
Cadmium (µg/L)	0.12	0.48	0.18	STORET
Chromium, total (µg/L)	0.0	0.0	0.0	STORET
Copper (µg/L)	2.4	0.70	0.26	STORET
Lead (µg/L)	4.1	1.9	0.74	STORET
Nickel (µg/L)	28.1	0.30	0.11	STORET
Zinc (µg/L)	13.5	1.87	0.71	STORET
Discharger flows (MGD)				
Warren Steel Holdings (CSC)	0.76	0.94	0.35	SWIMS
Thomas Steel Strip	0.62	0.45	0.17	SWIMS
RG Steel				
003	0.086	0.98	0.37	SWIMS
006	0.013	1.56	0.59	SWIMS
007	2.48 ^C	0.30	0.11	SWIMS
008	6.91	0.17	0.07	SWIMS
Intake ^B	---	---	---	---
013	34.3	0.11	0.04	SWIMS
010	0.24	0.72	0.27	SWIMS
011	1.47	0.60	0.23	SWIMS
012	0.14	0.47	0.18	SWIMS
ArcelorMittal 014	2.58	0.44	0.17	SWIMS
Warren WWTP	14.9	0.49	0.19	SWIMS
RMI - Niles	0.35	0.51	0.19	SWIMS
GenOn Power				
002	2.7	0.43	0.16	SWIMS
008	0.001	0.0	0.0	SWIMS
009	1.0	0.0	0.0	SWIMS
Niles WWTP	4.99	0.52	0.20	SWIMS
McDonald Steel 0.91	0.97	0.37		SWIMS
Youngstown WWTP	34.6	0.39	0.15	SWIMS
Campbell WWTP2.1	0.55	0.21		SWIMS
Struthers WWTP 4.7	0.31	0.12		SWIMS
Lowellville WWTP	0.43	0.72	0.27	SWIMS

^A Each iteration of the model sequentially selects an upstream flow from the historical flow record at this gage.

^B Intake flow was set equal to the sum of the RG Steel effluent flows plus the Mittal flow, multiplied by 0.871. (12.9 percent of the RG Steel / Mittal flow comes from sources other than the intake.)

^C Long-term average value reported on the application.

Table 7. Water Quality Criteria in the Study Area

Parameter	Units	Outside Mixing Zone Criteria				Maximum Aquatic Life	Inside Mixing Zone Maximum
		Average					
		Human Health	Agri-culture	Aquatic Life			
Ammonia - S	mg/L	--	--	1.3	--	--	
Ammonia – W	mg/L	--	--	4.0	--	--	
Antimony	µg/L	4300.	--	190.	900.	1800.	
Arsenic	µg/L	--	100.	150.	340.	680.	
Barium	µg/L	--	--	220.	2000.	4000.	
Beryllium ^H	µg/L	280.	100.	25.	220.	480.	
Bis(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate	µg/L	59.	--	8.4	1100.	2100.	
Boron	µg/L	--	--	3900.	33000.	65000.	
Bromodichloromethane	µg/L	460.	--	--	--	--	
Bromoform	µg/L	3600.	--	230.	1100.	2200.	
Bromomethane	µg/L	4000.	--	16.	38.	75.	
Chlorine, tot. res.	µg/L	--	--	11.	19.	38.	
Chloroform	µg/L	4700.	--	140.	1300.	2600.	
Chromium ⁺⁶ , diss.	µg/L	--	--	10. ^C	16.	31.	
Cobalt	µg/L	--	--	24.	220.	440.	
Cyanide, free	µg/L	220000.	--	12.	46.	92.	
Dibromochloromethane	µg/L	340.	--	--	--	--	
Fluoride	µg/L	--	2000.	--	--	--	
Iron	µg/L	--	5000.	1500. ^C	--	--	
Mercury ^A	ng/L	12.	10000.	910.	1700.	3400.	
Methyl Bromide	µg/L	4000.	--	16.	38.	75.	
Methylene Chloride	µg/L	16000.	--	1900.	11000.	22000.	
Molybdenum	µg/L	--	--	20000.	190000.	370000.	
Naphthalene	µg/L	--	--	21.	170.	340.	
Nitrate+Nitrite	mg/L	--	100.	--	--	--	
Phenol	µg/L	4600000.	--	400.	4700.	9400.	
Selenium	µg/L	11000.	50.	4.6 ^C	--	--	
Silver	µg/L	--	--	1.3	24. ^D	49. ^D	
Strontium	µg/L	--	--	21000.	40000.	81000.	
Tetrachloroethylene	µg/L	89.	--	53.	430.	850.	
Thallium	µg/L	6.3	--	17.	79.	160.	
Tin	µg/L	--	--	180.	1600.	3200.	
Toluene	µg/L	200000.	--	62.	560.	1100.	
Total Dissolved Solids	mg/L	--	--	1500.	--	--	
Total Dissolved Solids	mg/L	--	--	500. ^C	--	--	

^A Bioaccumulative Chemical of Concern (BCC)

^C Pennsylvania Water Quality Criteria.

^D Effective Criteria Based on Application of Dissolved Metal Translator.

^H Aquatic Life Criteria Based on hardness of 169.mg/l. IMZM based on hardness of 180. mg/l.

Table 8. Instream Conditions and Discharger Flows for the CONSWLA Model

Parameter	Units/Outfall		Value	Basis
Mahoning River Upstream				
7Q10	cfs	annual	136.	USGS gage #03094000, 1969-2010 data
1Q10	cfs	annual	129.	USGS gage #03094000, 1969-2010 data
30Q10	cfs	summer	186.	USGS gage #03094000, 1969-2010 data
	cfs	winter	192.	USGS gage #03094000, 1969-2010 data
HMQ	cfs	annual	383.	USGS gage #03094000, 1969-2010 data
Meander Creek at mouth				
7Q10	cfs	annual	6.19	USGS gage #03097500, 1929-51 data
1Q10	cfs	annual	6.19	USGS gage #03097500, 1929-51 data
30Q10	cfs	summer	6.19	USGS gage #03097500, 1929-51 data
	cfs	winter	6.19	USGS gage #03097500, 1929-51 data
HMQ	cfs	annual	6.19	USGS gage #03097500, 1929-51 data
Mosquito Creek at mouth				
7Q10	cfs	annual	10.6	USGS gage #03095500, 1954-91 data
1Q10	cfs	annual	9.47	USGS gage #03095500, 1954-91 data
30Q10	cfs	summer	14.0	USGS gage #03095500, 1954-91 data
	cfs	winter	12.6	USGS gage #03095500, 1954-91 data
HMQ	cfs	annual	28.0	USGS gage #03095500, 1954-91 data
Mill Creek at mouth				
7Q10	cfs	annual	9.99	USGS gage #03098500, 1952-71 data
1Q10	cfs	annual	9.87	USGS gage #03098500, 1952-71 data
30Q10	cfs	summer	10.7	USGS gage #03098500, 1952-71 data
	cfs	winter	15.7	USGS gage #03098500, 1952-71 data
HMQ	cfs	annual	14.3	USGS gage #03098500, 1952-71 data
Discharger Flow (cfs)				
Warren Steel Holdings	005		2.01	DSW Permits Staff
Thomas Steel Strip	001		1.83	DSW Permits Staff
RG Steel Warren	003		0.34	DSW Permits Staff
	006		0.08	DSW Permits Staff
	007		3.84	DSW Permits Staff
	008		13.4	DSW Permits Staff
	010		0.77	DSW Permits Staff
	011		4.56	DSW Permits Staff
	012		0.38	DSW Permits Staff
	013		57.6	DSW Permits Staff
ArcelorMittal Warren	014		6.50	DSW Permits Staff
Warren WWTP	001		24.8	DSW Permits Staff
RMI-Niles	001		0.743	DSW Permits Staff
Niles WWTP	001		9.59	DSW Permits Staff
McDonald Steel	001		2.82	DSW Permits Staff
Mosquito Creek WWTP	001		6.50	DSW Permits Staff
Meander Creek WWTP	001		6.19	DSW Permits Staff
Boardman WWTP	001		7.74	DSW Permits Staff

Table 8. Instream Conditions and Discharger Flows for the CONSWLA Model (Continued)

Parameter	Units/Outfall		Value	Basis
Discharger Flow	cfs			
GenOn Niles Power	001		264.6	DSW Permits Staff
	002		6.92	DSW Permits Staff
	008		0.002	DSW Permits Staff
	009		3.09	DSW Permits Staff
Girard WWTP	001		7.74	DSW Permits Staff
Youngstown WWTP	001		54.2	DSW Permits Staff
Campbell WWTP	001		2.94	DSW Permits Staff
Struthers WWTP	001		9.28	DSW Permits Staff
Lowellville WWTP	001		0.792	DSW Permits Staff
Mixing Assumption	%	average	100	Stream-to-discharge ratio
	%	maximum	100	Stream-to-discharge ratio
Background Water Quality				
Ammonia	mg/L	summer	0.305	Youngstown 801: 24 values, 0<MDL, 2006-11
Ammonia	mg/L	winter	0.30	Youngstown 801: 17 values, 0<MDL, 2006-11
Arsenic	µg/L	annual	2.0	STORET ^C ; 38 values, 17<MDL, 2006-2011
Beryllium	µg/L	annual	0.	No representative data available.
Bis-2EHP	µg/L	annual	0.	No representative data available.
Boron	µg/L	annual	0.	No representative data available.
Bromomethane	µg/L	annual	0.	No representative data available.
Cadmium	µg/L	annual	0.	STORET ^C ; 38 values, 38<MDL, 2006-2011
Chlorine, total res	µg/L	annual	0.	No representative data available.
Chromium, tot.	µg/L	annual	1.	STORET ^C ; 12 values, 11<MDL, 2006-2011
Chromium ⁺⁶ , diss	µg/L	annual	0.	No representative data available.
Chloroform	µg/L	annual	0.	No representative data available.
Cobalt	µg/L	annual	0.	No representative data available.
Copper	µg/L	annual	5.	STORET ^C ; 38 values, 30<MDL, 2006-2011
Cyanide free	µg/L	annual	0.	No representative data available.
Fluoride	µg/L	annual	0.	No representative data available.
Iron	µg/L	annual	719.	STORET ^C ; 38 values, 0<MDL, 2006-2011
Lead	µg/L	annual	1.	STORET ^C ; 38 values, 35<MDL, 2006-2011
Molybdenum	µg/L	annual	0.	No representative data available.
Naphthalene	µg/L	annual	0.	No representative data available.
Nickel	µg/L	annual	2.75	STORET ^C ; 12 values, 0<MDL, 2006-2011
Nitrate+Nitrate	mg/L	annual	0.61	STORET ^C ; 38 values, 0<MDL, 2006-2011
Phenol	µg/L	annual	0.	No representative data available.
Selenium	µg/L	annual	0.	STORET ^C ; 38 values, 38<MDL, 2006-2011
Silver	µg/L	annual	0.	No representative data available.
Strontium	µg/L	annual	127.	STORET ^C ; 38 values, 0<MDL, 2006-2011
TDS	mg/L	annual	252.	STORET ^C ; 38 values, 0<MDL, 2006-2011
Tetrachloroethylene	µg/L	annual	0.	No representative data available.
Thallium	µg/L	annual	0.	No representative data available.
Tin	µg/L	annual	0.	No representative data available.
Zinc	µg/L	annual	5	STORET ^C ; 38 values, 33<MDL, 2006-2011

^C STORET station # 602280 Mahoning River @ Leavittsburg - Leavitt Rd. RM 45.51

Table 9. Summary of Effluent Limits to Maintain Applicable Water Quality Criteria

Parameter	Units	Average		Maximum Aquatic Life	Inside Aquatic Life	Mixing Zone Maximum
		Human Health	Agri Supply			
Arsenic ^B	µg/L	–	473.	374.	830. ^A	680.
Barium	µg/L	–	–	339.	3174.	4000.
Bromomethane	µg/L	30140. ^A	–	66.	152. ^A	75.
Cadmium	µg/L	–	–	2.6 ^E	23. ^A	23.
Chromium, tot. ^B	µg/L	–	–	1109.	7100. ^A	7100.
Chromium ⁺⁶ , dissolved	µg/L	–	–	25. ^E	39. ^A	31.
Copper	µg/L	–	–	61. ^D	61. ^{AD}	61.
Cyanide free ^B	µg/L	681400. ^A	–	20.	73.	92.
Lead	µg/L	–	–	31. ^{D,E}	700. ^{AD}	700.
Mercury ^C	ng/L	12.	10000. ^A	910.	1700.	3400.
Molybdenum ^B	µg/L	–	–	53730.	497500. ^A	370000.
Nickel ^B	µg/L	–	–	448.	1900. ^A	1900.
Selenium ^B	µg/L	52020.	236.	11. ^E	–	–
Silver	µg/L	–	–	3.0	19. ^D	49. ^D
Total Dissolved Solids	mg/L	–	–	1949.	–	–
Total Dissolved Solids	mg/L	–	–	622. ^E	–	–
Zinc	µg/L	--	--	480. ^A	480. ^A	480.

^A Allocation must not exceed the Inside Mixing Zone Maximum.

^B Parameter would not require a WLA based on reasonable potential procedures, but allocation requested for use in pretreatment program.

^C Bioaccumulative Chemical of Concern (BCC); no mixing zone allowed after 11/15/2010, criteria must be met at end-of-pipe unless the requirements for an exception are met as listed in 3745-2-08.

^D WLA based on applicable dissolved metal translator.

^E Limit to meet Pennsylvania water quality criteria.

Table 10. Parameter Assessment

<u>Group 1:</u>	Due to a lack of criteria, the following parameters could not be evaluated at this time.		
	Chloride	Phosphorus	
<u>Group 2:</u>	PEQ < 25% of WQS or all data below minimum detection limit; WLA not required. No limit recommended, monitoring optional.		
	Arsenic	Bromodichloromethane	Chlorine, total res.
	Chloroform	Chromium, tot.	Cyanide, free
	Iron	Molybdenum	Nickel
	Nitrate+Nitrite	Selenium	Strontium
	Tetrachloroethene		
<u>Group 3:</u>	PEQ _{max} < 50% of maximum PEL and PEQ _{avg} < 50% of average PEL. No limit recommended, monitoring optional.		
	Barium	Bromomethane	Chromium ⁺⁶ , dis
	Copper	Lead	Zinc
<u>Group 4:</u>	PEQ _{max} ≥ 50% but <100% of the maximum PEL or PEQ _{avg} ≥ 50% but < 100% of the average PEL. Monitoring is appropriate. No parameters meet the criteria of this group.		
<u>Group 5:</u>	Maximum PEQ ≥ 100% of the maximum PEL or average PEQ ≥ 100% of the average PEL, or either the average or maximum PEQ is between 75 and 100% of the PEL and certain conditions that increase the risk to the environment are present. Limit recommended.		

Limits to Protect Numeric Water Quality Criteria

Parameter	Units	Applicable Period	Recommended Effluent Limits	
			Average	Maximum
Cadmium	µg/L	annual	2.6 ^E	23.
Mercury	ng/L	annual	12.	1700.
Total Dissolved Solids	mg/L	annual	1949.	--
Total Dissolved Solids	mg/L	annual	622. ^E	--

^E Limit to meet Pennsylvania water quality criteria.

Table 11. Final Effluent Limits and Monitoring Requirements

Parameter	Units	Effluent Limitations				Basis ^b
		Concentration		Loading (kg/day) ^a		
		Monthly Average	Daily Maximum	Monthly Average	Daily Maximum	
Temperature	°C	----- Monitor -----				M
Dissolved Oxygen	mg/l	5.0 minimum				BEJ, EP
Suspended Solids	mg/l	30	45 ^c	682	1022 ^c	BEJ, BPT, EP
Oil and Grease	mg/l	--	10	--	--	WQS, EP
Ammonia-N	mg/l	----- Monitor -----				BEJ, EP
Total Kjeldahl-N	mg/l	----- Monitor -----				M
Nitrite(N) + Nitrate(N)	mg/l	----- Monitor -----				M
Phosphorus, Total	mg/l	----- Monitor -----				M
Nickel, T. R.	µg/l	----- Monitor -----				M
Zinc, T. R.	µg/l	----- Monitor -----				M
Cadmium, T. R.	µg/l	2.6	23	0.0591	0.523	WLA
Lead, T. R.	µg/l	----- Monitor -----				M
Chromium, T. R.	µg/l	----- Monitor -----				M
Copper, T. R.	µg/l	----- Monitor -----				M
Hex. Chromium (Dissolved)	µg/l	----- Monitor -----				M
<i>E. coli</i>						
Summer Only (Final)	#/100ml	126	284 ^c	--	--	WQS
Flow	MGD	----- Monitor -----				M
Chlorine, Total Residual Summer	mg/l	--	0.024	--	--	EP
Mercury, T. Interim	ng/l	31	1700	0.000705	0.0387	BEJ
Final		12	1700	0.000273	0.0387	WLA
Whole Effluent Toxicity Acute	TUa	----- Monitor -----				WET
pH	S.U.	----- 6.5 to 9.0 -----				WQS, EP
Total Filterable Residue (Dissolved Solids)	mg/l	----- Monitor -----				BEJ
CBOD ₅	mg/l	25	40 ^c	568	909 ^c	BEJ, BPT, EP

^a Effluent loadings based on average design discharge flow of 6.0 MGD.

^b **Definitions:** BEJ = Best Engineering Judgment; BPT = Best Practicable Waste Treatment Technology, 40 CFR Part 133, Secondary Treatment Regulation; EP = Existing Permit; M = BEJ of Permit Guidance 1: Monitoring Frequency Requirements for Sanitary Discharges; RP = Reasonable Potential for requiring water quality-based effluent limits and monitoring requirements in NPDES permits [OAC 3745-33-07(A)]; WET = Minimum testing requirements for whole effluent toxicity [OAC 3745-33-07(B)(11)]; WLA = Wasteload Allocation procedures (OAC 3745-2); WQS = Ohio Water Quality Standards (OAC 3745-1-07).

^c Weekly average limit.