



SOUTH SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY SANITATION DISTRICT

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STAFF REPORT

Date: November 6, 2019
To: Board of Directors
From: Jeremy Ghent, District Administrator; Mychal Jones, Plant Superintendent
Subject: **DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR AND PLANT OPERATIONS REPORT**

This report represents ongoing information on the latest District staff activities on major capital projects and studies, programmatic initiatives, regional collaboration, miscellaneous activities, and Plant Operations. *Updates since the last report are provided in italics below:*

Capital Projects:

Redundancy Project:

- *Update on the Agenda*

Central Coast Blue:

- *District Administrator and Legal Counsel are reviewing MOA language and the overall role of the District's participation in the project.*

Misc:

- *The District has identified approximately 15 residential properties in the Halcyon Neighborhood that have incorrectly been charged for sewer service for the past 4 years. District is working with NBS and the Tax Collector's office to make corrections and issue refunds.*
- *Flood Control Zone 1/1A Arroyo Grande Creek Cleanup is complete*
- *District Administrator met with LAFCO Staff to coordinate a Sphere of Influence Update*
- *County Work on Oceano Drainage Continues. Work on District manhole is complete.*
- *District Administrator participated in the 'Countywide Water Action Team' meeting on October 24th.*
- *District Administrator and Plant Superintendent kicked off the District's Coastal Hazards Monitoring Program with Rincon Consultants on November 1st.*
- *District is reviewing and inspecting manhole adjustments on Arroyo Grande's Cherry Ave. Project.*

Plant Tours:

1. None

Upcoming Items (Anticipated Date):

1st Quarter Financial Review (Dec 4th)

Revisions to KJ ESDC contract for Compliance with USDA (Dec 4th)

Central Coast Blue MOA (TBD)

District Goals and Priorities (TBD)

Plant Operations Report

During this reporting period (October 1st – October 30th) the District's facility met its Permit Limitations as required under the State of California's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit issued to the District.

Monthly Plant Data as of October 30, 2019

October 2019	INF Flow MGD	INF Peak Flow MGD	INF BOD mg/L	EFF BOD mg/L	BOD % Removal	INF TSS mg/L	EFF TSS mg/L	TSS % Removal	Fecal Coliform MPN/10 0mL	Chlorine Usage lbs/day
Low	2.23	3.3	344	14.6		347	20		<1.8	125
High	2.57	4.2	512	27.2		590	32.8		79	250
Average	2.35	3.64	471	22.8	95.2	461	26.7	94.2	12.2	220
Oct 2018 AVG	2.5	3.75	435	19.9	95.4	486	27.4	94.4	21.5	338
Limit	5.0			40/60/90			40/60/90	>80	2000	

*Limits – 40/60/90 represent the monthly average, weekly average, and instantaneous maximum value for plant effluent Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD) and Total Suspended Solids (TSS). >80 represents the average monthly percent removal of BOD and TSS. 2000 represents the maximum daily value for plant effluent fecal coliform

Operation and Maintenance Projects

- Replaced valve at primary clarifier scum box
- Repaired and rehabilitated pipe stand for influent pump
- Performed a confined space entry into primary clarifier No.2 to clean scraper arms and center feed tube to prepare for inspection
- Plumbed new piping for hoses on fixed film reactor
- Performed a confined space entry with Ovivo to inspect primary clarifier No.2
- Troubleshoot and repaired leak at primary clarifier No.2
- Reviewed and inspected Underground Service Alerts
- Cleaned and cleared weeds in drain near emergency generator
- Performed a confined space entry into primary clarifier No.1 and repaired rubber on skimmer
- Installed new floats in field sump
- Performed lockout/tagout and unwired motor on No. 3 influent pump to prepare for removal
- Cleaned multiple sludge beds
- Installed new drains and hoses on grit dumpsters
- Replaced bag on washer compactor chute
- Removed influent pump No.3 coupler and prepared pump to send in for rehabilitation
- West Coast Gauging Services, Inc. performed annual maintenance on flare and digester biogas equipment
- Greased centrifuge gearbox and cyclo-reducer
- Repaired silt screen around field drains
- Performed biogas sampling for analysis

Work Orders Completed

- Changed oil in digester mixing pump
- Performed monthly maintenance on 6" pump
- Rinsed down all surfaces of clarifiers
- De-ragged primary sludge pumps
- Test ran emergency generator and emergency bypass pump
- Inspected digester vacuum/pressure relief valves
- Inspected fixed film reactor orifices, netting, and grabbed an oil sample for analysis
- Performed maintenance on pumps in final pump room
- Performed annual motor maintenance
- Performed maintenance on forklift
- Exercised effluent pumps

Training

- Operations staff attended confined space and entrant supervisor training
- Operations staff reviewed switching from plant water to city water
- All staff participated in First Aid and CPR training

Call Outs

- October 2nd, 3:55 AM – Motion Alarm. Operations staff responded and inspected main office. There were no signs of entry.

Notice of Violation

On October 24, 2019, the District received a Notice of Violation from the Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board regarding the Non-serious violations that occurred on July 5, 2018. The NPDES Permit limits that were exceeded were Seven Sample Median and Daily Maximum for fecal coliform. For each of the Non-serious violations the District has been assessed a \$3,000 penalty, \$6,000 in total.

The District is accepting the Conditional Offer to Participate in Expedited Payment Program. By accepting the offer, the District can avoid the issuance of a formal enforcement action and settle the alleged violations identified in the Notice of Violation. In addition, acceptance of the offer waives the District's right to a hearing, and the District must pay the mandatory minimum penalty as indicated in the Notice of Violation. The Central Coast Water Board will accept the payment in settlement of any enforcement action that would otherwise arise out of the violations identified in the Notice of Violation. The Central Coast Water Board enforcement staff will forego issuance of a formal administrative complaint, will not refer the violations to the Attorney General, and will waive its right to seek additional discretionary civil liabilities for the violations identified in the Notice of Violation.

Federal regulations require the Central Coast Water Board to publish any proposed settlement of an enforcement action addressing NPDES permit violations and provide at least 30 days for public comment [40 C.F.R. section 123.27(d)(2)(iii)]. Upon receipt of the District's Acceptance and Waiver, Central Coast Water Board enforcement staff will publish a notice of the proposed settlement of the violations.

If no comments are received within the 30-day period, and unless there are new material facts that become available to the Central Coast Water Board, the Executive Officer will execute the Acceptance and Waiver as a settlement agreement and stipulation for entry of administrative civil

liability order assessing the uncontested mandatory minimum penalty amount pursuant to Water Code section 13385.

If, however, significant comments are received in opposition to the settlement, this Conditional Offer may be withdrawn. In that case, the District's waiver pursuant to the Acceptance and Waiver will also be treated as withdrawn, and the unresolved violations will be addressed in a revised offer or a liability assessment proceeding. In the latter case, at the liability assessment hearing the District will be free to make arguments as to any of the alleged violations, and the District's agreement to accept the Conditional Offer will not in any way be binding or used as evidence against the District. The District will be provided with further information on the liability assessment proceeding.

In the event the Acceptance and Waiver is executed by the Executive Officer as a stipulated order, Central Coast Water Board staff will then send the District that order in a separate letter. Payment of the assessed amount will then be due and payable as specified in the letter that will accompany the Executive Officer's signed stipulated order. Failure to pay the penalty within the required time period may subject the District to further liability.