

Blake Tresan

Notes from Wastewater Expansion Committee Meeting

5/20/08

- In Attendance at Meeting:
  - SLCWD - Wade Freedle, Ulrich Luscher, Blake Tresan
  - DSPUD – Bob Sherwood, Other Board Member, Tom Skjelstad, Jim King
  - Eco:Logic – Bob Emerick, David Price, Charlie Bunker
  - Public – 2 women from Palisades, Somebody La Bel
  - Royal Gorge – Mike Livak
- DSPUD has a \$120,000 contract with Eco:Logic for the planning and design of their wastewater facilities.
- To date they have worked on three phases: 1) Permit Renewal, 2) Wastewater Flow & Loading Characteristics, and 3) WWTP Capacity Evaluation
- Permit Renewal:
  - The primary goal of this task is to get the existing DSPUD permit renewed.
  - The current permit is for 0.52 MGD with an option to increase to 0.82 MGD if an engineer signs off on it.
  - The biggest problem with their current permit appears to be nitrate concentration limits in the effluent to the river that they have trouble making.
  - The plan is to get “dilution credits” from the Regional Board so that they can discharge higher nitrate concentration into the Yuba.
  - They had hoped to have their permit renewed this summer. Due to a staffing shortage at the Regional Board, they now don't expect to have a new permit until this winter at the earliest.
  - The permit will have two phases that can be comments on:
    - Administrative Draft
    - Tentative Waste Discharge Permit/NPDES Permit
  - They also hope to keep the language in the permit that would enable them to increase flows to the plant to 0.82 MGD.
  - Permit may also contain limits on new constituents such as metals.
  - Any violation from permit will result in a \$3000 fine which may be allowed to be put towards improvements in the WWTP to remedy problem.
- Wastewater Characterization:
  - Historical flows and influent concentrations of BOD, TSS, and Ammonia were reviewed.
  - Flows and loading are highly variable and thus monthly and weekly rolling averages were used to estimate peak influent conditions.

- Influent BOD, TSS, and Ammonia appear to be higher than anticipated and are higher than the design values used by Brentwood Industries for their Accuweb system.
- Treatment Plant Performance
  - Historic effluent concentrations of BOD, TSS, Ammonia, and Nitrate were summarized.
  - The plant has performed well with respect to BOD removal.
  - The plant has met ammonia limits based on twice weekly samples sent to a licensed laboratory. Effluent limit is 2 to 5 mg/L depending upon the temperature and pH of water.
  - Plant staff have performed daily effluent ammonia tests which indicate that the plant frequently exceeds its effluent limits.
  - The plant has had trouble meeting its current nitrate effluent limit of 10 mg/L. Violations in November and December have led to fines which must be put towards improvements at the WWTP.
  - Jim King, Chief Operator, and Jeff Hauser are trying to determine why the plant effluent cannot consistently meet effluent requirements. They will be working with Brentwood Industries to hopefully find a solution.
  - Brentwood Industries estimated the plant could have a capacity to meet a peak flow of 0.44 MGD. This capacity estimate was based on the favorable ammonia concentration data from the licensed labs. A lower capacity would be estimated based on the results of the in-house lab results.
- Schedule:
  - Next milestone will be the issuance by the Regional Board of the Administrative Draft of the Discharge Permit.
    - A committee or full board meeting will be held at this time.
  - Eco:Logic will be finalizing their Wastewater Characterization Tech Memo.
  - Eco:Logic will be preparing a Tech Memo on the WWTP Capacity and Performance Evaluation.
  - Eco:Logic plans on doing some preliminary work on evaluating the capacity of the land disposal area (Soda Springs Ski Hill).
  - Earliest a WWTP expansion could occur is estimated to be Fall of 2011 or 2012.