

Environment Committee

Meeting date: July 9, 2013

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of July 24, 2013

Subject: Adoption of Facility Plan for Empire Wastewater Treatment Plant Solids Processing Improvements, MCES Project No. 807400, Resolution No. 9

District(s), Member(s): Districts 4, Gary VanEyll; District 16, Wendy Wulff

Policy/Legal Reference: PFA Loan Rules

Staff Prepared/Presented: Rene Heflin, 651-602-1077; Bryce Pickart 651-602-1091

Division/Department: MCES c/o Leisa Thompson 651-602-8101

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council adopt the Facility Plan for the Empire Wastewater Treatment Plant Solids Improvements, MCES Project No. 807400, by formal Council resolution 2013-9 (attached).

Background

The Empire Wastewater Treatment Plant was expanded to 24 mgd liquid treatment capacity in 2006. Solids processing capacity expansion was deferred.

The Facility Plan recommends phased expansion of digestion. Phase 1 of the recommended capital improvements includes the following improvements:

1. Conversion of storage digesters to primary digesters to increase primary digestion capacity by 33%, from 18 dtpd to 24 dtpd. Miscellaneous digester system improvements include replacement of heat exchangers and boiler improvements.
2. New 650 kW combined heat and power system, with biogas treatment and storage, to convert digester gas to electricity. This system will produce over 1/3 of the plant's power and 2,500 mBTU/hr of heat to the digestion process.
3. Biosolids cake storage demonstration and pad drainage improvements to increase utilization of the existing biosolids pad storage.

The estimated capital cost is \$15,000,000.

A public hearing was held on May 30, 2013. The public comment period ended on June 10, 2013. Comments were received and addressed at the public hearing; they involved stormwater management and truck traffic concerns. No other comments were received during the public comment period.

Rationale

Public Facilities Authority (PFA) loan funding eligibility requires formal adoption of the Facility Plan by resolution (attached), following a public hearing on the draft Facility Plan.

Funding

Funds for project planning and design are included in the 2013 Capital Program. MCES will request construction funding for 2014. MCES will pursue PFA funding.

Known Support / Opposition

MCES staff is not aware of opposition to the project.

Metropolitan Council
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RESOLUTION No. 2013 - 9

RESOLUTION APPROVING AND ADOPTING
THE FACILITY PLAN FOR THE
EMPIRE WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT SOLIDS IMPROVEMENTS
PROJECT NO. 807400

WHEREAS:

1. The Metropolitan Council is a public corporation and political subdivision of the State of Minnesota and has statutory responsibility for operating the Twin Cities Metropolitan Area regional wastewater collection and treatment system, and
2. The Metropolitan Council has determined it is necessary and convenient for the fulfillment of its statutory responsibilities to construct the Empire Wastewater Treatment Plant Solids Improvements, Project Number 807400, and
3. A draft Facility Plan for the project has been completed and a public hearing was held on May 30, 2013 to discuss the proposed project and the draft Facility Plan

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE METROPOLITAN COUNCIL that the Facility Plan for the Empire Wastewater Treatment Plant Solids Improvements, MCES Project No. 807400, is hereby approved and adopted.

Adopted this 24th day of July, 2013.

Susan Haigh, Chair

Emily Getty, Recording Secretary