

Wastewater Reclamation Facilities: Program 8091

Description:

This project provides funding for the acquisition and planning of sites for future wastewater reclamation facilities and for planning for wastewater reuse where collaboration opportunities have been identified. In March of 2017, Enerkem, a Canadian company, stated its interests in receiving reclaimed water service from MCES. Enerkem is planning to construct a waste-to-fuel facility in Inver Grove Heights that will need 1.6 million gallons of water per day for its industrial processes and for cooling. MCES owns land at the former Rosemount Wastewater Treatment Plant site, with effluent from Empire plant running through an outfall pipe adjacent to the site. The site is approximately 4.5 miles from the proposed Enerkem Facility, providing an opportunity for a cost effective industrial wastewater reuse application. The project will consist of constructing a diversion from the Empire WWTP outfall, treatment facility and distribution system to provide reused wastewater. Enerkem would be responsible for all costs associated with constructing a distribution pipeline from MCES WWTP to Enerkem's proposed facility.

Purpose and Justification:

This project supports the Metropolitan Council's Wastewater Sustainability Policy of providing efficient, high-quality, and environmentally sustainable regional wastewater infrastructure and services. It allows for the identification and pursuit of options to reuse treated wastewater to supplement groundwater and surface water as sources of water to support regional growth, when economically feasible.

