



SUSTAINABLE INCINERATION

Metropolitan Council Environmental Services (MCES) plans to add capacity and renew existing wastewater solids processing facilities at the Metropolitan Wastewater Treatment Plant (Metro Plant).

Project Overview

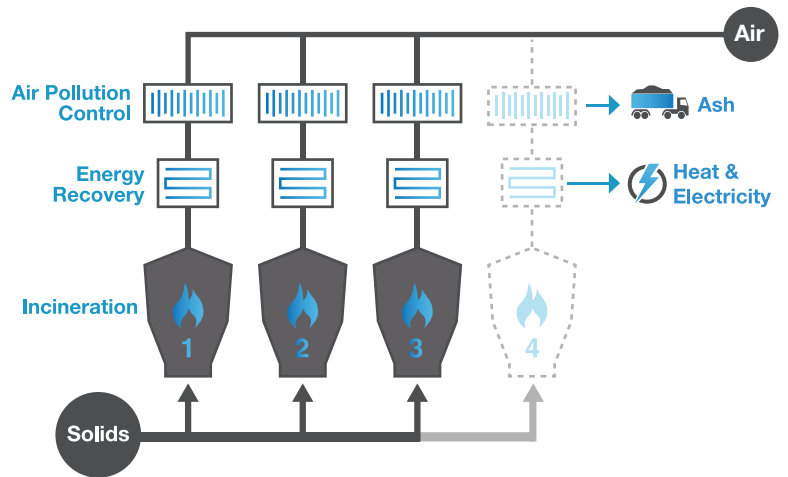
The Metro Plant incinerates 75% of the region’s wastewater solids and is critical infrastructure for protection of public health and the environment.

Project Background

MCES employs the newest environmentally sustainable methods for processing solids removed from wastewater at the Metro Plant. The process eliminates bacteria, generates energy, and reduces solids disposal. The Metro Plant incineration system continues to have an exceptional track record of environmental compliance.

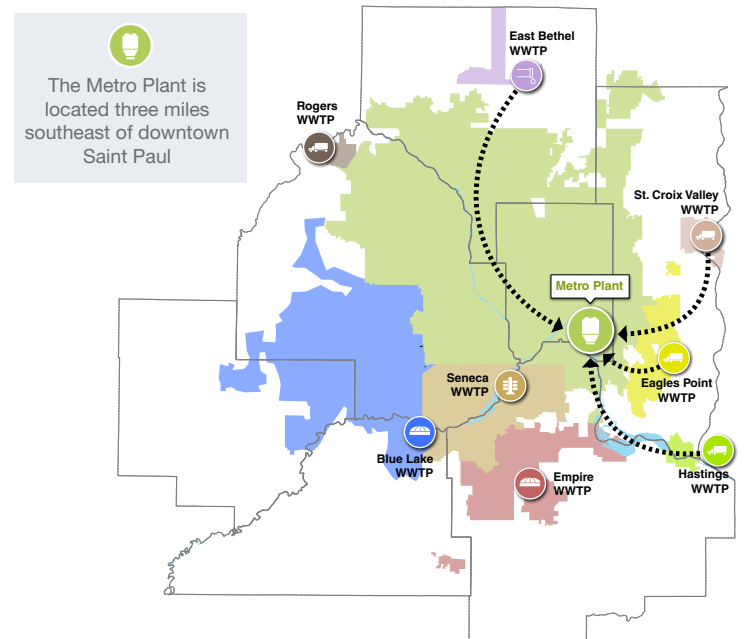
Project Need


The Metro Plant needs additional wastewater solids processing capacity to:



PROJECT LOCATION

The Metro Plant receives wastewater solids from four other MCES wastewater treatment plants.





Preserve Existing Wastewater Treatment Plant Infrastructure

Planned renewal projects will require extended downtime of the existing incinerators.



Serve Regional Population Growth

500,000 new residents in the Metro Plant service area in the Twin Cities by 2050.

Fourth Incinerator Project Benefits

The fourth incinerator is the most cost-effective and sustainable alternative to meet the region's wastewater needs. It will have the lowest community impact, and will improve the reliability of the wastewater treatment system.



COST EFFECTIVE

Adding a fourth incinerator costs 50% less to construct, operate, and maintain than any other solids processing alternative.



LOW GREENHOUSE GASES

Greenhouse gas emissions are similar to other alternatives and insignificant compared to other industries and are offset through energy recovery.



LOW IMPACT

A fourth incinerator will not generate additional odors or require land acquisition, providing the lowest impact to surrounding communities.



EXCEPTIONAL AIR QUALITY

The fourth incinerator will meet strict air emission standards, ensuring protection of human health and the environment.



ENERGY RECOVERY

Incineration recovers enough energy to power 800 homes. The energy recovered is used within the plant and saves ratepayers \$1.8 million per year.



SYSTEM RELIABILITY

The fourth incinerator will allow the Metro Plant to serve as backup to the other MCES facilities, increasing the reliability of the whole MCES system.



Project Schedule

MCES completed planning and engaged in outreach at the end of 2018. The fourth incinerator is planned to be constructed by the end of 2027, followed by renewal of existing facilities.

2015



PLANNING

2020



FOURTH INCINERATOR
PERMITTING / PROCUREMENT /
PRELIMINARY DESIGN

2025



FOURTH INCINERATOR
DESIGN BUILD
CONSTRUCTION

2028



EXISTING INCINERATORS
RENEWAL DESIGN &
CONSTRUCTION

2031

Learn More

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MCES Mission

Provide wastewater services and integrated planning to ensure sustainable water quality and water supply for the region.