Northwest Water Treatment Plant Improvements

Project Update

Brunswick County Board of Commissioner Meeting

Reed Barton, PE

January 7, 2019





Alternatives Considered for Improvements to Water Supply

Maintain Existing Cape Fear River Supply

- Abundant source of water
- Existing Infrastructure
- Advanced treatment is required to address emerging contaminants (GenX, PFAS, 1,4-Dioxane)
- Northwest WTP requires expansion to meet projected water demand

Expand County's Groundwater Supply

 Groundwater supply is inadequate to meet the County's water needs

SELECTED

NOT SELECTED

For advanced treatment, LPRO is recommended for the following reasons:

- Best removal of GenX, other PFAS and 1,4-Dioxane
- Most Cost-Effective advanced treatment technology for removing 90% or more of the Target Contaminants (25-yr NPW)
- Provides best protection against the broadest range of unidentified contaminants and spills/spikes in the Cape Fear River



Advanced Treatment Evaluation

Jan - Apr '18

Preliminary Engineering

& NPDES Permit

May - Aug '18

Application Submitted Nov '18

Bidding & Construction

Nov '19 - Sep '22

LPRO Pilot Testing Feb - Jul '18 Extended to May '19

Pilot Testing Has Confirmed LPRO Effectiveness

Parameter	Filtered Water Concentration	RO Treated Water	Calculated Removal %
Gen X	7 – 12 ng/L	ND	
Nafion Byproduct 1 & 2	ND – 6 ng/L	ND	
PFMOAA	320 – 750 ng/L	ND – 11 ng/L	98%+
PFO2HxA	12 – 26 ng/L	ND	
PFHxA	19 – 20 ng/L	ND	
PFPeA	16 - 17 ng/L	ND	
PFOS + PFOA	18 - 26 ng/L	ND	
Sum (45) of PFAS Tested	423 – 892 ng/L	ND – 11 ng/L	

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Oct '18 - Sep '19

Preliminary Engineering Work Completed

Description	Opinion of Probable Project Cost
WTP Expansion and Improvements	\$47.5 M
RO Facility	\$82 M
Concentrate Pipeline	\$7.5 M
Total	\$137 M



✓ Selected for WIFIA Funding (up to \$73M Loan)

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Why is an NPDES Permit Required?

- LPRO generates concentrate stream
- CDM Smith evaluated alternatives to manage concentrate

Option	Feasible	Justification
NPDES discharge to surface water	Yes	Proximity to Cape Fear River; NC DEQ has approved discharges for other RO facilities
Discharge to sewer/ wastewater system	No	Existing wastewater infrastructure in 10 mile radius not adequate
Land application	No	'Very limited' soils in the area; estimate 1,000 acres land required
Reuse/ reclaimed water	No	No existing infrastructure, low demand in area
Deep well injection	No	Not permitted by NC General Statutes

Characteristics of Requested Discharge

- Discharge will meet ALL regulatory requirements
- Expected flow range is 0.7 mgd 4 mgd
- NPDES permit will set specific guidelines for the water being discharged
- Return compounds to the Cape Fear River that were removed from the drinking water during treatment
- No net increase in PFAS or emerging contaminants to the river



NPDES Permit Application Status

- Application submitted Nov. 9, 2018
- Probable 6-month review/approval process
- Preliminary comments from DEQ received Dec. 14, 2018
- CDM Smith is preparing responses (Jan 2019)
- Next step: DEQ will prepare a Draft NPDES Permit
 - State and federal agency review
 - Public comment

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Final Design Status

- Final design initiated October 2018
- Final documents ready for bidding October 2019







