



DATE: March 14th, 2024
TO: Members of the Board of Directors
FROM: John Gibson, Chief Plant Operator
SUBJECT: OPERATION REPORT: FEBRUARY, 2024

Regulatory Compliance

- Completed and submitted the annual summary for the 2023 self-monitoring report.
- Completed and submitted the annual recycled water report for 2023.
- 1st quarter 2024 compost facility inspection completed by the Sonoma County Department of Health Services.
- Sewer lateral inspections completed for 9050 Irving St. & 8931 Oak Grove. Issued certificates of compliance.
- No spill certification submitted for the month of February.

Sampling and Monitoring

- Completed the annual compost sampling and sent to the Soil Control Laboratory for analysis.
- Carried out the necessary sampling and analysis on a daily, weekly, and monthly basis, as stipulated by the NPDES permit.

Operations Report: Operations, Process Control, and Preventative Maintenance

The following activities were carried out as part of our ongoing efforts to ensure efficient operations, maintain process control, and implement preventative maintenance measures:

On the 5th, due to severe weather causing trees to topple and power lines to fall, we faced difficulties in initiating our plant operations. The power outage affected the functioning of crucial systems responsible for supporting chemical processes during startup mode. Typically, our chemical pumps rely on well water initially, switching to process water once all systems are operational and the purge tank has sufficient water levels. Additionally, the storm disrupted internet and phone services at the plant, impeding our ability to make callouts or remotely monitor operations. Operators had to navigate through hazardous conditions, including downed power lines on Ross Lane, to access the plant. Unfortunately, Pacific Gas and Electric (PGE) could not provide an estimated time for restoring power.

By February 6th, our treatment ponds were nearing overflow, with less than a tenth of a foot of freeboard remaining. It was imperative to act swiftly to prevent any spillage. Consequently, we manually adjusted the plant to bypass tertiary filters and redirected water through our chlorine disinfection system, utilizing the chlorine contact basin. The disinfected water was then diverted to the West holding pond for storage, while discharging from the East storage pond.

Despite intermittent power disruptions and ongoing efforts by PGE to restore lines and reset poles on February 7th, communication channels remained inactive. However, by February 8th, power supply stabilized, and



AT&T successfully restored the office phone line at the plant. We promptly integrated this line into our Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) system for effective callouts. Subsequently, the plant resumed normal operations, including tertiary filtration.

I am pleased to report that despite the challenges faced, no effluent violations were observed during this period.

- Held a meeting with Graton's newly appointed regulator, Sabrina Cegielski, alongside Mathew from the NCRWQCB. Conducted a tour of the plant and engaged in discussions regarding operations. Emphasized the necessity of raising our permitted discharge flow rates into Atascadero Creek. Doing so would enhance our capacity to collaborate with FWD in discharging recycled water from both districts.
- Forestville Water District continued discharging recycled water through the intertie pipeline to GCSD's effluent storage ponds through the month of February. The total amount of recycled water received in February from FWD was 6.036 million gallons (MG).
- During a power outage pump #1 at lift station #1 faulted. A technician from PumpMan diagnosed the problem to be an internal short in the pump windings. A replacement pump is on order and pending delivery.
- The ultrasonic flowmeter measuring influent flow at the headworks encountered a loss of signal with the transmitter located above the parshall flume. Telstar responded and performed test and calibrated the ultrasonic meter. The meter is now functioning, but it is advised to replace the entire meter assembly. Telstar will provide a quote for the scope of work and materials.
- Serviced the coagulant chemical feed pump, replaced worn diaphragm and cleaned the check valves.
- DW enterprise made repairs to the roadway on the North side of the West holding pond that had washed out during heavy rain. The roadway was repaired and compacted and the storm ditches cleaned out to prevent standing water.
- Continued weekly testing and inspections of both plant and lift station #1 backup generators.
- Conducted weekly flushing of the SAF rotary gear pump and froth system using a rust inhibitor.
- Conducted weekly cleaning and flushing of the 1748E turbidity meters and piping.