Center for the Inland Bays Scientific & Technical Advisory Committee Meeting

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Wandendale Regional Wastewater Treatment and Disposal Facility

February 18, 2011



A Middlesex Water Company Affiliate

Regulated Wastewater Utility

- ✓ Design
- ✓ Build
- ✓ Own
- ✓ Operate
- ✓ Maintain

Governmental Agency Oversight

- PSC oversee us for:
 - Tariff
 - Franchise
 - Service
- DNREC for environmental aspects
 - Coastal Zone permit
 - Construction permit
 - Operating permit
- Sussex County
 - Conditional use approval



Project Scope:

• Design, Build, Own, Operate a regional wastewater treatment and disposal facility that would do several things:

- Serve proposed developments (essentially eliminating the need to build individual septics or multiple smaller community systems)
- Provide the opportunity to eliminate existing septics







Type of Treatment

- Membrane Bio-reactor treatment facility.
 - Produces high quality effluent that is clear and odorless.
 - Provides enhanced nutrient removal with discharges of:
 - Total Nitrogen of 5 mg/l (in accordance with PCS)
 - Total phosphorus will be 0.5 mg/l
 - Followed by Ultra Violet disinfection







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Facility Rendering



Hart's Landing Wastewater Facility

Type of Disposal

RIBS

- Shallow basins (18-24" deep) that accept the treated water
- 15.4 acres area approved for RIBs
- Six (6) basins
- Dose one basin per day, then let it rest for five days and rotate the basins.





Bay Front RIBS Facility



Spray Irrigation

- Berm landscaping
- Cropland
- Similar to the County's Wolf Neck, Piney Neck and Inland Bays
- Future lined storage pond
- 150 acres of spray land





Extensive Soils Work Has Been Done

•Soils reconnaissance and report

- Detailed Soils investigation report for the RIB area
 - Depth to Ground water is 19-22ft. in RIB area
 - Double Ring Infiltrometer testing has been done in RIB area to test the permeability and the results are favorable.







Extensive Hydro-geological Work Completed

- Continuous wet season monitoring
- Deep borings
- A hydro-geological ground water model
 - Long Travel Times
 - Significant depth to groundwater
 - No adverse affects to wells or water bodies
- Significant depth to groundwater







Figure 21: Calculated Flow Paths and Travel Times

Phased Construction and Operation of the Facility

- > Ultimate Design Capacity is for 1.45 MGD.
- > The phases will be for 150,000 gpd each; the last increment will be for 100,000 gpd.
- \succ Pump and haul for the first 15-20,000.
- > At 15 20,000 gpd, place plant into operation.

➤ At 145,000 gpd (10% of overall permit), we'll start to spray on landscaping on berms of RIBs as needed.

At 300,000 gpd we'll start to spray on field closest to RIBs using co-mingled water drawn out of a well downgradient of the RIBs, because the discharge itself will not be enough.

➤ At 600,000 gpd we'll build first lagoon and start spraying near RIBs; will use well as needed.

- We'll continue with RIB disposal during the phases as well, when crops do not need the water.
- > Treatment systems will be in designed and constructed in parallel.





Approvals for Project

- Sussex County Conditional Use Approval.
- Coastal Zone permit approval.
- Detailed Soils Investigation report approval.
- Received Ground Water Impact Assessment approval.
- The Construction permit was submitted to DNREC on December 20, 2010.



Summary

✓ Design, Build, own, operate a state of the art wastewater treatment and disposal facility.

- ✓ Reduce nutrients (meet PCS requirements)
- ✓ Recharge groundwater
- ✓ No adverse effects on wells or water bodies
- \checkmark Preserves open space, farmland and forest land.

 \checkmark Serve new developments eliminating need for multiple community systems or individual septics.

✓ Opportunity to serve existing individual septics











Spray Irrigation of Domestic Wastewater was Banned in Delaware in the 1970's

Spray Irrigation of Domestic Wastewater was Back in Action in the mid-80's Using Lagoon Treatment Technology for BOD Reduction and Crops for Nutrient Removal

Disposal Evolution







 $149 \rightarrow 65$

 $0 \rightarrow 16$

 $0 \rightarrow 12$

Treatment Evolution



Treatment Evolution



Membrane Overview

Semi-Permeable Membrane
Pores





Treatment Evolution





Mixed

liquor



- Technology has finally caught up.
- Regulatory requirements can all be met
- Crops no longer necessary to provide nutrient reduction function





