

WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT
FUND NO. 553
ACCOUNT NO. 1108

DESCRIPTION

The Wastewater Treatment Plant provides treatment of all wastewater discharged through the sewer collection system.

MISSION

Protect the public health, the environment, and the waters of the State of California by providing appropriate wastewater treatment processes to all wastewater collected while monitoring and ensuring water discharged meets or exceeds State and Federal requirements.

GOALS

- ◇ Operate and maintain the City of Merced's Wastewater Treatment Plant in a reliable safe, productive, and cost-efficient manner.
- ◇ Maintain compliance with State Water Resources Control Board National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit requirements.
- ◇ Promote safety in the workplace through increased employee involvement, as well as taking full advantage of the industry's educational and technical programs, which are in compliance with Cal- OSHA and Fed- OSHA.

OBJECTIVES

***PERFORMANCE
MEASUREMENTS/INDICATORS***

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| 1. Continue to meet the requirements of the NPDES permit and Cease and Desist (C/D) order 5-00-247. | Maintain full compliance of the NPDES permit C/D Order 5-00-247. Perform project modifications as agreed with the Regional Water Quality Control Board(RWQCB).

Continue with weekly plant operational updates. |
| 2. Continue to work closely with ECO:LOGIC Engineering on Phase 4 pre-design criteria for future expansion of the Wastewater Treatment Facility | Pre-design criteria will be completed in FY 05. |

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| 3. Continue with weed abatement in effluent channel and work closely with Briscoe Enterprise on concrete rip-rapping of effluent channel. | Ongoing project. Minimum of \$50,000 allocated annually. |
| 4. Regularly update the Standard Operating Procedures (SOP), as new testing methods are developed and promulgated. | Updates to the SOP will be made as required. |
| 5. Begin early discussions with the staff of the RWQCB regarding the plant expansion to assure design criteria will comply with any revisions to the City's NPDES permit, which expires in October 2005. | Establish schedule of meetings with RWQCB staff to begin developing design criteria. |

2004/2005 BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

The plant expansion costs for engineering evaluation and design services are approximately \$2 million. The proposed plant expansion estimate is between \$25 million and \$30 million. These expenditures could impact our current sewer rates, requiring a sewer rate adjustment.

The NPDES permit cost for 2004-05 is \$59,000, up from \$10,000 in 2003-04.

A Maintenance Instrumentation Electrician, a WWTP Operator II and a Water Quality Control Facilities-Superintendent were requested to keep pace with the growth of the facility. The Superintendent position is recommended by the City Manager.