

ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL

FUND NO. 553

ACCOUNT NO. 1109

DESCRIPTION

The Environmental Control Division provides the resources and programs necessary to adequately monitor and protect the quality of our community's water resources, including both public drinking water and water discharged to the sanitary sewer or storm drain systems.

MISSION

Operate and implement water pollution control programs as required by federal and state laws ensuring compliance by both the City of Merced and those dischargers regulated by the City.

GOALS

- ◇ Control the quality of industrial discharges to the wastewater collection and treatment systems through inspections, monitoring, and permitting.
- ◇ Ensure compliance with all applicable state and federal water quality discharge requirements for the Wastewater Treatment Plant and its customers.
- ◇ Monitor and evaluate drinking water quality, ensuring City compliance with all applicable state and federal regulations governing drinking water quality and municipal well construction.

OBJECTIVES

PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENTS/INDICATORS

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| 1. Continue to coordinate Wastewater Treatment Plant toxicity compliance efforts. | Continue to meet requirements of the Regional Water Quality Control Board issued to the Wastewater Treatment Facility. |
| 2. Oversee sampling of City drinking water for California Code of Regulations (CCR) Title 22 Methyl-tert-Butyl-Ether (MtBE). Evaluate and report results to the Dept. of Health Services (DOHS). | Sample, review, report and file results as required by the DOHS. Sampling frequency based on vulnerability of water supply source. |

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| 3. Implement Phase II Storm water regulations affecting the City of Merced, which will require a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit. Collaboration with Storm Drains Division, Engineering Department, Merced Irrigation District, UC Merced, County of Merced, and other incorporated cities within Merced County. | Before-and-after comparison of storm water quality will be a direct indicator of program success. |
| 4. Continue with expanded regional groundwater monitoring program, which generates data for the preparation of Merced Groundwater Management Plan. Program expansion to include the Wastewater Treatment Plant sludge beds and wildlife area. | Ongoing quarterly sampling of groundwater monitoring wells on schedule. |
| 5. Inspect and repair all groundwater-monitoring wells preventing potential contaminant pathways to City drinking water supply sources. | Ongoing maintenance and repair are accomplished during quarterly sampling of monitoring wells. |
| 6. Review and ensure the absence of various chemical contaminants from the City's drinking water system. | Coordinate and work closely with the Water Division, obtaining samples from specific drinking water sources and verify the absence of chemical contaminants by lab analysis on a recurring basis. |
| 7. Annual review of fees for services to assure adequate, accurate cost recovery | Annual report on review findings |

2005-2006 BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

A National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Coordinator, and a Water Resources Coordinator have been requested. These positions will be split between the WWTP and Environmental Control Divisions. These positions are necessary to keep pace with the increased demands of electrical and instrumentation maintenance at the WWTP, the continued growth of the city, and continually increasing regulatory requirements and demands.