

City of Pacifica
Calera Creek Recycled Water Treatment Plant
South San Francisco, California

I. Respondent:

Pedro Mendoza, Plant Manager

II. Presenters:

Louis Sun, Deputy Director Public Works

Dave Mothershed, Lead Operator

III. Treatment Plant Characteristics:

- Wastewater Treatment
- 12 full-time and 2 part-time employees

IV. Innovation:

A. Description

Calera Creek Water Recycling Plant (CCWRP) utilizes Sequencing Batch Reactor (SBR), Sand filtration, UV Disinfection to treat wastewater and Autothermal Thermophilic Aerobic Digestion (ATAD) and centrifuge for biosolids treatment

B. Type of Innovations

CCWRP was built in 1996 and was on line by 2000. This replaced the old treatment plant which is a conventional treatment plant.

C. Motivation for Innovations

- The aging infrastructure was costly to maintain
- Need for better treatment and higher quality effluent

D. Barriers/Challenges

Finding a location, also space provided allocated for plant is limited

E. Benefits

Better effluent quality (very low ammonia, higher BOD and solids removal compared to conventional wastewater treatment plant, restoration of the wetlands)

F. Effect on Staff Training

Staff has to relearn treatment process and get higher grade levels. Staff are cross-utilized.

G. Lessons Learned

With the new plant coming online, odor was an issue. We became better neighbors and not long built a bio-filter in addition with our odor control system. This utilizes wood chips as a media. The wood chips are provided by gardeners and landscaping contractors to us at no cost to us.

V. DROUGHT RESPONSE

We continued sending our effluent to North Coast County Water District for (NCCWD) use with golf course irrigation. NCCWD treats the water for distribution

VI. INFORMATION-SHARING

Would be willing to visit another regional water/wastewater facility to provide a presentation on our process/innovation.

Would be willing for a staff member from another water/wastewater utility to conduct a follow-up visit to your utility to learn more about your innovation

- Contact Louis Sun or Dave Mothershed at: phone: 650-738-4660
email: sunl@ci.pacifica.ca.us / mothershedd@ci.pacifica.ca.us