



Utility Commission Meeting Agenda

Thursday, September 19, 2024 at 6:00 PM

Columbus City Hall – 105 N. Dickason Boulevard

Call to Order

Roll Call

Notice of Open Meeting

Approval of Agenda

Public Comment

Consent Agenda

1. Approval of August 15, 2024 Minutes.
2. Utilities Outage Reports
 1. August 29, 2024 Electrical Outage - Middleton & Dickason.
3. Financial Reports:
 1. Approve the Water, Wastewater and Light Cash Disbursements Report and Accounts Payable Report – Discussion/Approval

Unfinished Business

4. HVAC PM w/ T&M or Full Coverage Contract Comparison with Bassett Mechanical

New Business

5. Eggers Imprints Shared Savings Loan
6. Columbus Wastewater Treatment Qwik-Zyme D Case Study
7. Hospital Switches
8. Columbus Utilities Capital Improvement Plan

Reports

9. Utilities Directors Report
10. Future Agenda Topics - Review & Approval of 2025 Operating Budget
11. MEUW September Live Lines
12. WPPI - Mid Year Home Energy Report 2024
13. WPPI - 2024 Residential Survey

Adjourn

*A quorum of city committees and/or commissions may be present at this meeting. No action will be taken or considered by those committees and/or commissions.

Next Columbus Utility Commission Meeting: October 17, 2024 6:00PM Council Chambers - City Hall



Columbus Utility Commission Meeting Minutes

Thursday, August 15, 2024 at 6:00 PM

Columbus City Hall – 105 N. Dickason Boulevard

Call to Order

Sandy Curtis called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

Roll Call

PRESENT

Joe Hammer
Molly Finkler
Laura Beckman
Brook Andler
Sandy Curtis

ABSENT

Michael Thom
Reagan Rule

Notice of Open Meeting

The meeting was noted as being posted.

Approval of Agenda

Motion made by Hammer, Seconded by Finkler to approve the agenda.

Voting Yea: Hammer, Finkler, Beckman, Andler, Curtis

Public Comment

1. Baker Tilly Presentation on Utility Financial Statements for 2022 and 2023

Jodi Dobson of Baker Tilly presented the annual audit results.

Consent Agenda

Motion made by Hammer, Seconded by Beckman to approve the consent agenda including minutes of the June 20, 2024 meeting, the June 20, 2024 workshop, and the July 18, 2024 minutes, the outage reports of July 13 & August 6, and the financial reports.

Voting Yea: Hammer, Finkler, Beckman, Andler, Curtis

2. Approve Minutes:

June 20, 2024

June 20, 2024 Commission Workshop

July 18, 2024

3. Outage Reports:

July 13, 2024 - W1017 CTH K Blown Fuse due to lightning strike.

August 6, 2024 - E. Prairie St. & S. Water St. lines down due to storm.

4. Financial Reports:

Approve the Water, Wastewater and Light Cash Disbursements Report and Accounts Payable Report - Discussion/Approval

Unfinished Business

5. Substation #4 Low Side Bushing Replacement and Oil Report

Motion made by Hammer, Seconded by Finkler to expend an additional \$29,657.88 to complete the needed repairs.

Voting Yea: Hammer, Finkler, Beckman, Andler, Curtis

New Business

6. Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) - Discussion

City Administrator, Matt Amundson & Utility Director, Jacob Holbert provided an overview of the Capital Improvement Plan. The next step is to share this information with Ehlers, the city's financial advisor to assist in structuring bonding and debt to accomplish this work. No action was taken on this item.

7. WWTP - HVAC Semi Annual PM and T&M Contract w/Bassett Mechanical

Utility Director, Jacob Holbert discussed the proposal from Bassett Mechanical for a preventative maintenance program for the Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Motion made by Hammer, Seconded by Finkler to postpone this item to the September meeting.

Voting Yea: Hammer, Finkler, Beckman, Andler, Curtis

8. Electric Utility Approval to Order Transformers for Inventory - 2025 Budget

Motion made by Hammer, Seconded by Finkler to approve the purchase in the amount of \$637,650.

Voting Yea: Hammer, Finkler, Beckman, Andler, Curtis

9. Water Utility - Replacement of Fire Hydrant due to failed nozzle.

Motion made by Finkler, Seconded by Beckman to purchase the replacement water hydrant on Richmond Street in the amount of \$14,750

Voting Yea: Hammer, Finkler, Beckman, Andler, Curtis

10. WWTP - Purchase of New Transducers for Sand Filter Process.

Motion made by Hammer, Seconded by Finkler to approve the purchase in the amount of \$10,896

Voting Yea: Hammer, Finkler, Beckman, Andler, Curtis

Reports

11. Utilities Report

Utility Director, Jacob Holbert provided the report.

12. Future Agenda Topics:

a. Rate Case Adjustments - Residential, Commercial, and Industrial Clients

- b. Septage Receiving Rate Adjustment
- c. Concentration Based Multiplier on Sewerage Rate Charges
- d. Investigation and Implementation of FOG Discharge Violations

Wastewater Treatment Plant preventative maintenance contract with Bassett Mechanical, Rate Case Adjustments - Residential, Commercial, and Industrial Clients, Septage Receiving Rate Adjustment, Concentration Based Multiplier on Sewerage Rate Charges, and Investigation and Implementation of FOG Discharge Violations will all be future agenda topics.

Adjourn

Motion made by Finkler, Seconded by Beckman to adjourn at 7:32pm.

Voting Yea: Hammer, Finkler, Beckman, Andler, Curtis

*A quorum of city committees and/or commissions may be present at this meeting. No action will be taken or considered by those committees and/or commissions.

Please note that these minutes are subject to approval at a future meeting.

2024 AGENDA ITEM

Utility Commission Meeting Date: 9/19/2024

ITEM: August 29, 2024 Middleton & Dickason

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF SUBJECT MATTER:

On August 29, 2024 at 7:41AM animal contact caused the fuse to blow at 3F/80/96 on Circuit #206 of Substation #2. 69 customers were without power for 39 minutes. Power was restored at 8:20AM.

LIST ALL SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION ATTACHED:

1. See Attached Columbus Water & Light Customer Outage Report.

ACTION REQUESTED OF COMMISSION:

1. Review Outage Report.

COLUMBUS WATER & LIGHT CUSTOMER OUTAGE REPORT

Item #2.

SUBSTATION Sub 2 CIRCUIT # 206 DATE 08/29/2007
 LOCATION OF FUSE OR RECLOSER 3F/80/96
 CUSTOMER NAME OR LOCATION Middleton & Dickerson
 REMARKS Squirrel got cooked

PART THAT FAILED

- ☒ None
 1 Numerous
 2 Other-note in remarks
 3 Transmission equipment
 4 Substation equipment
O.H. DISTRIBUTION

- 10 Anchor or guy
 11 Arrestor
 12 Conductor – Primary
 13 “ – Secondary
 14 Connector
 21 Insulator
 24 Metering equipment
 25 Pole
 26 Recloser
 27 Riser or Jumper
 28 Splice
 29 Switch – GOAB
 30 “ – Disc.
☒ 31 Cutout – Fused
 32 Transformer – Line
 33 Transformer – Potential

U.G. DISTRIBUTION

- 50 Arrestor
 51 Conductor – Primary
 52 “ – Secondary
 53 Connector – Bolted
 54 “ – Comp.
 55 “ – Elbow
 56 “ – Splice
 59 Terminator
 60 Transformer – Pad Mount
 61 Transformer – Bayonet Fuse
 62 Metering Equipment

WEATHER

- ☒ Normal
 2 Wind
 3 Thunderstorm
 4 Rain
 5 Rain and wind
 6 Fog
 7 Ice
 8 Ice and wind
 9 Snow
 10 Extreme cold
 11 Extreme heat
 12 Extreme storm

CAUSE

- 0 Unknown
 1 Loss of supply
 2 Operating error
 3 Circuit overload
 4 Mis-coordination
 5 Faulty installation
 6 Lightning
 7 Wind
 8 Ice
 9 Cold weather
 10 Hot Weather
 11 Moisture
 12 Contamination
 13 Fire
 14 Extreme storm

FOREIGN OBJECTS

- 20 Vehicles
 22 Trees – tore down
 23 Trees – shorted
☒ 24 Animals
 25 Birds
 26 Underground dig in
 27 Vandalism
 28 Other

EQUIPMENT

- 30 Manufacturing defect
 31 Equipment overload
 32 Electrical failure
 33 Worn out

(use 24 hour time)

TIME OFF 3:04 PM ON 8:20Number of Calls 1

Number of Customers	Minutes Duration
<u>69</u>	<u>39</u>

TRANSFORMER FAILURE

CWL# _____ KVA _____

MFG _____ AGE (est) _____

Serial # _____

Arrestor ON / OFF Tank (circle one)

ARRESTOR FAILURE

MFR _____ Porc Polymer
 Riser Line Transformer
 (circle all that apply)

DEVICE THAT OPENEDDistributionMain Feeder

Breaker _____ Counter _____

Targets _____

Branch Line

O.C.R. _____ Size _____

Fuse 50F Size _____Transformer

Fuse _____ Transf. Size _____

ROUTING (initial)Responded By Jeff HechtLine Assisted By Mason Mathew

Assisted By _____

Manager _____

Outage File _____

2024 AGENDA ITEM

Utility Commission Meeting Date: 09/19/2024

ITEM: Financial Reports

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF SUBJECT MATTER:

Included in the Financial Reports are the Treasure's Report and the Cash Disbursements Report.

The Accounts Payable Report will be sent via email the Wednesday before the Commission meeting.

LIST ALL SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION ATTACHED:

1. Treasure's Report
2. The Cash Disbursements Report

ACTION REQUESTED OF COMMISSION:

1. Review and approve the Cash Disbursements Report and the Accounts Payable Report.

CITY OF COLUMBUS - COLUMBUS UTILITIES

TREASURER'S REPORT - AUGUST 2024

Item #3.

GENERAL FUND (commingled cash) - ACCOUNT #1310

CASH ON HAND - BEGINNING OF MONTH:	\$ 365,653.44
Receipts:	\$ 1,191,516.74
Interest Earned:	\$ 185.55
<i>Sub-total:</i>	<i>\$ 1,557,355.73</i>
Disbursements:	\$ (1,233,674.94)
Cash on Hand - Month End:	\$ 323,680.79

NOTE: Conventional utility accounting standards recommend a balance equal to two month's expenses - approx. \$1,400,000 (LGIP & Checking).

UTILITY GENERAL FUND - LGIP #13 - ACCOUNT #1314

CASH ON HAND - BEGINNING OF MONTH:	\$ 654,868.25
Receipts:	\$ 15,500.00
Interest Earned:	\$ 3,043.91
<i>Sub-total:</i>	<i>\$ 673,412.16</i>
Disbursements:	\$ -
Cash on Hand - Month End:	\$ 673,412.16

MRB PRINCIPAL & INTEREST - LGIP #5 - ACCOUNT #1255

CASH ON HAND - BEGINNING OF MONTH:	\$ 276,418.07
Receipts:	\$ 30,000.00
Interest Earned:	\$ 1,347.28
<i>Sub-total:</i>	<i>\$ 307,765.35</i>
Disbursements:	\$ -
Cash on Hand - Month End:	\$ 307,765.35

NOTE: Transfers are made monthly to accrue sufficient funds to make May 1 and November 1 principal & interest payments.

CW&L RESERVE FUND - F&M - ACCOUNT #1251

CASH ON HAND - BEGINNING OF MONTH:	\$ 340,422.56
Receipts:	\$ -
Interest Earned:	\$ -
<i>Sub-total:</i>	<i>\$ 340,422.56</i>
Withdrawal from CDAR :	\$ -
Cash on Hand - Month End:	\$ 340,422.56

F&M Bank/CDAR 52 Week Certificate of Deposit:

\$170,211.28 Due June 2024 4.55%; \$170,211.28 Due December 2024 4.75%

E-3-P ENHANCED ENERGY EFFICIENCY PROGRAM - F&M - ACCOUNT #1313

CASH ON HAND - BEGINNING OF MONTH:	\$ 148,112.60
Receipts:	\$ -
Interest Earned (pd semi-annually May/Nov) :	\$ -
<i>Sub-total:</i>	<i>\$ 148,112.60</i>
Disbursements:	\$ (2,690.54)
Cash on Hand - Month End:	\$ 145,422.06

CW&L DEPRECIATION - LGIP #6 - ACCOUNT #1266

CASH ON HAND - BEGINNING OF MONTH:	\$ 824,598.90
Receipts:	\$ 5,000.00
Interest Earned:	\$ 3,794.19
<i>Sub-total:</i>	<i>\$ 833,393.09</i>
Disbursements:	\$ -
Cash on Hand - Month End:	\$ 833,393.09

NOTE: Bond covenants require a "depreciation fund" with recommended balance of \$300,000 to cover plant renewals and replacements.

SEWER UTILITY - LGIP #4 - SEWER UTILITY GENERAL FUNDS

CASH ON HAND - BEGINNING OF MONTH:	\$ 220,325.63
Receipts:	\$ -
Interest Earned:	\$ 1,010.22
<i>Sub-total:</i>	<i>\$ 221,335.85</i>
Disbursements:	\$ -
Cash on Hand - Month End:	\$ 221,335.85

SEWER UTILITY - LGIP#11 - COLLECTION MAIN - REPLACEMENT

CASH ON HAND - BEGINNING OF MONTH:	\$1,092,002.20
Receipts:	\$ -
Interest Earned:	\$5,006.96
<i>Sub-total:</i>	<i>\$ 1,097,009.16</i>
Disbursements:	\$ -
Cash on Hand - Month End:	\$ 1,097,009.16

WWTP REPLACEMENT FUNDS - LGIP #9

CASH ON HAND - BEGINNING OF MONTH:	\$ 245,627.11
Receipts:	\$ -
Interest Earned:	\$ 1,126.23
<i>Sub-total:</i>	<i>\$ 246,753.34</i>
Disbursements:	\$ -
Cash on Hand - Month End:	\$ 246,753.34

SEWER UTILITY - LGIP #8 - BOND REDEMPTION/RESERVE

CASH ON HAND - BEGINNING OF MONTH:	\$ 472,185.14
Receipts:	\$ -
Interest Earned:	\$ 2,165.02
<i>Sub-total:</i>	<i>\$ 474,350.16</i>
Disbursements:	\$ -
Cash on Hand - Month End:	\$ 474,350.16

SEWER UTILITY - F&M SAVINGS - BOND REDEMPTION/RESERVE

CASH ON HAND - BEGINNING OF MONTH:	\$ 233,652.17
Receipts:	\$ -
Interest Earned (pd semi-annually May/Nov) :	\$ -
<i>Sub-total:</i>	<i>\$ 233,652.17</i>
Disbursements:	\$ 19,566.27
Cash on Hand - Month End:	\$ 253,218.44

WWTP FALL RIVER RESTRICTED REPLACEMENT FUNDS - F&M CDARS

CASH ON HAND - BEGINNING OF MONTH:	\$ 1,085,130.50
Receipts:	\$ -
Interest Earned:	\$ -
<i>Sub-total:</i>	<i>\$ 1,085,130.50</i>
Withdrawal from CDAR :	\$ -
Cash on Hand - Month End:	\$ 1,085,130.50

F&M Bank/CDAR (2) - Interest paid out and deposited to Checking

Local Gov't. Investment Pool	5.41%	F&M Union Bank-Checking/Savings	0.5% / 0.75%
Farmers & Merchants Bank - CDARS	4.55% to 5.25%		

COLUMBUS UTILITIES
CASH DISBURSEMENTS REPORT
AUGUST, 2024

11-Sep-24

DATE	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT	ACCOUNT	DETAILS
15-Aug-23855	Aberdeen Consulting, LLC	\$286.50	Network Security/ Firewall License & Subscription	
15-Aug-23856	Ace Hardware	\$333.23	PIPE PVC, ADAPTERS, O-RINGS, KEY BLANK, CM SOCKETS, RAGS, MIS FAS	
15-Aug-23857	AL-WIN ENTERPRISE LLC	\$460.00	BUCKET REPAIRED	
15-Aug-23858	AMBUSH PEST CONTROL, LLC	\$115.00	SUBSTATION RODENT CONTROL WATER PLANT INSECT CONTROL	
15-Aug-23859	AQUAFIX	\$1,614.15	GREASEZILLA LIQUID (65-GAL DRUM)	
15-Aug-23860	Baker Tilly US, LLP	\$1,722.00	2023 AUDIT SERVICES-WASTEWATER, ELECTRIC, WATER	
15-Aug-23861	BROZEK & O'BRIEN EXCAVATING	\$120.00	DELIVERED LINCK TICKET #S 638828 & 638829 TO SUB STATION	
15-Aug-23862	CAMBELL THOM	\$1,000.00	FALL SCHOLARSHIP 2024	
15-Aug-23863	CHEMTRADE CHEMICALS	\$13,668.00	HYPER-ION 1997 HULK	
15-Aug-23864	CHRIS OVERSON	\$98.60	REFUND OVER PAID UTILITIES	
15-Aug-23865	CITY OF COLUMBUS	\$59,940.72	MONTHLY PILOT SALARIES, RAGS PAPER 12X10 BILLED TO CITY, PHONE USE REIMBURSEMENT AT&T, CU DUMPSTERS, VON BRISENS, CUSTODIAN WAGES WW, R	
15-Aug-23866	CIVICS SYSTEM	\$3,026.00	FINANCIAL SOFTWARE	
15-Aug-23867	CULLIGAN WATER CONDITIONING	\$66.00	PE-DI RENT 8/1-8/31/2024	
15-Aug-23868	Department of Administration	\$5,503.60	PUBLIC BENEFITS FY24 Q4	
15-Aug-23869	DIGGERS HOTLINE, INC	\$124.80	LOCATING EXPENSES	
15-Aug-23870	DREXEL BUILDING SUPPLY	\$53.76	PLYWOOD FOR COVER FOR THE TRANSFORMERS	
15-Aug-23871	ELECTRICAL TESTING LABORATORY, LLC	\$3,088.34	TESTING GLOVES, SLEEVES, BLANKETS	
15-Aug-23872	FANNIE MAE	\$80.69	REFUND OVER PAID UTILITIES	
15-Aug-23873	FASTENAL COMPANY	\$159.22	INVENTORY MIOR MATERIAL	
15-Aug-23874	FORSTER ELECTRICAL	\$1,358.15	SUBSTATION #4 TRANSFORMER DAMAGE EQUIPMENT FAILURE INVESTIGATION	
15-Aug-23875	GREEN BAY PIPE & TV	\$8,660.40	CLEANING & TELEVISING SEWERS-SANITARY SEWERS	
15-Aug-23876	HAWKINS	\$6,829.61	WASTEWATER CHEMICALS WATER TREATMENT CHEMICALS	
15-Aug-23877	HYDROCORP, LLC	\$929.00	CROSS CONNECTION CONTRL PROGRAM	
15-Aug-23878	ICS MEDICAL ANSWERING SERVICE	\$168.70	PHONE ANSWERING SERVICE	
15-Aug-23879	JAMES STADLER	\$22.78	HANGING TAG EXPENSE	
15-Aug-23880	JERMEY ROLL	\$25.00	SUBCLASS P-NUTRIENT REMOVAL CLASS REIMBURSEMENT	
15-Aug-23881	LAKEVIEW INTERNATIONAL	\$18,650.33	DUMPTRUCK #26 INSPECTION, LABOR MATERIALS	
15-Aug-23882	LINCK AGGREGATES, INC	\$343.75	(56.75) TON 3/4 DENSE WEST 7/17	
15-Aug-23883	MASON MOSHER	\$354.30	MASON APPRENTICSHIP	
15-Aug-23884	MEUW	\$15,618.00	REGIONAL SAFETY MANAGEMENT PROGRAM ANNUAL FEE DALTON AND JACOB T REGISTRATION	
15-Aug-23885	MID-STATE EQUIPMENT, INC	\$429.98	BOBCAT RENTAL AND BUCK EXCAVATOR, GRASS BLADES, LAWN MOWER MAINTANCE	
15-Aug-23886	MIDWEST SALT	\$3,120.02	BULK SALT	
15-Aug-23887	MILLENNIUM	\$2,025.20	SWEEEP, 4"X900X36"RADIUS, BELL END, SCH 40UG, UG CONDUIT, 4"SCH 40, BELL END, UL LISTED, 10' LENGTH	
15-Aug-23888	MULCAHY SHAW WATER	\$1,421.42	P7 IQ REPLACEMENT VALVE	
15-Aug-23889	NAPA AUTO PARTS	\$134.98	PREM AW 68 HYD FL 5G, FILTER	
15-Aug-23890	NAPLETON CHEVROLET BUICK	\$84.15	SMALL BUCKET TRUCK #22	
15-Aug-23891	NORCON CORPORATION	\$95,532.85	WWTF CLARIFIER DECK REPLACEMENT REBID PAYMENT #2	
15-Aug-23892	NORTHCENTRAL LABORATORIES	\$1,115.82	STIR SHAFT FOR PROBOD OPTICAL SELF, H-26094-50, M-COLIBULE-24-BROTH AMPULES, BUFFERED DILUTION WATER	
15-Aug-23893	OPEN POINT	\$1,250.00	MONTHLY SUBSCRIPTIONS	
15-Aug-23894	PACKERLAND RENT-A-MAT	\$182.04	CLOTHS, MATS, MOPS, TOILET TISSUE	
15-Aug-23895	POMP'S TIRE SERVICE, INC	\$557.34	WASTEWATER CASE FRONT END LOADER	
15-Aug-23896	PUBLIC SERVICE COMM OF WI	\$90.95	APPROVAL UPDATES STREET LIGHTING SERVICE TARIFF	
15-Aug-23897	RUEKERT & MIELKE, INC	\$9,705.25	STORM COLLECTIONS SYSTEMS SUPPORT, 2024 GIS ANNUAL SERVICES, SEWER UTILITY SERVICE, MEISTER LIFT STATION DESIGN, WTP NO 1 RESERVOIR OVERFI	
15-Aug-23898	STUART C IRBY CO	\$95,950.76	UG ZIN ELBOW (24), UG ARRESTER (24), 4-POINT JUNCTION (6), 160Z SPLICE/CABLE (24), UG-15KV 16X14 (8320), COND TPLX 1000FT REEL (2000), COND DPLX 6 CLAF	
15-Aug-23899	USA BLUE BOOK	\$446.91	HIGH RANGE PLUS COD, INVERTED PAINT GREEN CASE OF 12	
15-Aug-23900	USIC LOCATING SERVICES, INC	\$5,006.48	LOCATING EXPENSES	
15-Aug-23901	WASTEWATER TRAIING SOLUTIONS	\$495.00	BIOSOLIDS/SLUDGE CLASSES, PHOSPHORUS REMOVAL CLASSES FOR JEREMY ROLL AND TONY DERR	
15-Aug-23902	WI STATE LABORATORY OF HYGI	\$29.00	FLUORIDE TEST	
15-Aug-23903	WILLIAMREID LTD, LLC	\$203.79	PROMINENT PIN MUL TI-FUNCTION VALVE	
15-Aug-23904	WISCONSIN BIOMEDICAL SERVICES	\$408.88	CARDIAC SCIENCE POWERHEART AED REPLACEMENT BATTERY	
15-Aug-23905	WISCONSIN COPY & BUSINESS	\$31.37	USAGE CHARGES	
		\$352,622.82	SUBTOTAL	
01-Aug-ACH	Farmers & Merchants Union Bank	\$35.00	NSF Fees	
02-Aug-ACH-3892	BP	\$1,525.11	FUEL	
02-Aug-ACH-3897	Payment Service Network	\$2,982.70	Customer Payment Fee	
20-Aug-ACH-3893	Charter Communications	\$89.99	Internet Admin Building	
20-Aug-ACH-3904	Charter Communications	\$119.98	WASTEWATER SPRECTRUM	
20-Aug-ACH-3902	Charter Communications	\$119.98	Internet Service for Electric SCADA	
20-Aug-ACH-3898	US CELLULAR	\$92.22	Cell Phone Charges Wastewater	
19-Aug-ACH-3909	US CELLULAR	\$422.07	CELL PHONE CHARGES	
14-Aug-ACH	Investment Pool	\$30,000.00	July Bond Interest Payment	
14-Aug-ACH	Investment Pool	\$5,000.00	July Depreciation Payment	
14-Aug-ACH	Investment Pool	\$15,500.00	Transfer into LGIP #13 General Fund	
09-Aug-ACH	CWL Net Payroll	\$33,037.10	Net Payroll for 1st Payroll in August #17	
09-Aug-ACH-3891	Wisconsin Department of Revenue	\$1,720.37	State Withholding Payroll #17	
09-Aug-ACH-3889	EFTPS	\$11,659.49	FICA/MED/FED Withholding Payroll #17	
09-Aug-ACH-3890	WI Deferred Comp Board	\$1,756.62	Payroll Deferral Billing for Payroll #17	
20-Aug-ACH-3906	WE Energies	\$28.45	Natural Gas Service for CWL Admin Building	
20-Aug-ACH-3905	WE Energies	\$13.16	Natural Gas Service for Water Plant #2	
Aug-ACH-3899	WE Energies	\$13.33	WESTSIDE SEWAGE LIFT	

Item #3.

20-Aug	ACH-3903	WE Energies	\$13.33	GENERATOR ON JAMES ST
20-Aug	ACH-3907	WE Energies	\$11.28	WASTEWATER PUMP STATION
22-Aug	ACH-3908	SEERA	\$1,896.89	FOCUS ON ENERGY PAYMENT
13-Aug	ACH-3900	Wisconsin Department of Revenue	\$25,771.84	July Sales and Use Tax
15-Aug	ACH-3883	Brook Andler	\$50.00	Commission Salary for August
15-Aug	ACH-3884	Laura Beckman	\$50.00	Commission Salary for August
15-Aug	ACH-3885	Michael Thom	\$50.00	Commission Salary for August
15-Aug	ACH-3886	Regan Rule	\$50.00	Commission Salary for August
15-Aug	ACH-3887	Sandra Curtis	\$50.00	Commission Salary for August
20-Aug	ACH-3896	Kwik Trip	\$131.03	Fuel
20-Aug	ACH-3894	Cintas	\$22.95	First Aid Supplies for August
23-Aug	ACH-3470	Wisconsin Department of Revenue	\$1,845.14	State Withholding Payroll #18
23-Aug	ACH	CWL Net Payroll	\$33,985.88	Net Payroll for 2nd Payroll in July #18
23-Aug	ACH-3468	EFTPS	\$12,254.30	FICA/FED/MED Withholding Payroll #18
23-Aug	ACH-3469	WI Deferred Comp Board	\$1,711.88	Payroll Deferral Billing for Payroll #18
25-Aug	ACH-3885	City of Columbus - Life	\$278.34	Employees Life Insurance - August
25-Aug	ACH-3884	City of Columbus - Health	\$17,568.75	Employees Health Insurance - August
25-Aug	ACH-3886	City of Columbus - Dental	\$1,098.96	Employees Dental Insurance - August
25-Aug	ACH-3887	City of Columbus - Vision	\$144.80	Employees Vision Insurance - August
25-Aug	ACH-3888	City of Columbus - Health Savings Account	\$1,338.00	Employees Health Savings Account Transfer - August
25-Aug	ACH-3883	City of Columbus - Retirement	\$13,254.44	Employees Retirement - August
29-Aug	ACH-3901	WPPI	\$662,625.62	Power bill for 7/1/2022-7/31/2022, NorthStar Dynamics, Electric/Water MDM Charges, Interface, Residential AMI Metering, GIS SERVICE
20-Aug	ACH-3895	Cardmember Services	\$2,680.84	ENVELOPES, MAIL SUPSCRIPTIONS, BINDERS, BATTERY BACKUPS, PAPER, CLOTHING-TONY, SAFETY CONES, WRWA EXPO REGISTRATION, LODGING FOR APPRE
29-Aug	ACH	Farmers & Merchants Union Bank	\$152.60	ACH Fees
		SUBTOTAL	\$881,052.12	

TOTAL \$1,233,674.94 APPROVED BY:

2024 AGENDA ITEM

Utility Commission Meeting Date: 9/19/2024

ITEM: HVAC PM w/T &M or Full Coverage Contract Comparison with Bassett Mechanical

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF SUBJECT MATTER:

Due to the amount of information and complexity of the programs details more time was needed to read through and digest the request presented during the August 15th Commission Meeting. Jason Erxleben of Bassett Mechanical is here to provide a presentation on the benefits of contracting with Bassett Mechanical for our WWTP needs.

You will also see an incomplete list of purchases and repairs made on the WWTP equipment that would be covered under a contract with Bassett Mechanical. This list is complete as many invoices could not be accounted for, one vendor did not reply to our emails or calls, and a number of pieces of equipment are still left inoperable.

LIST ALL SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION ATTACHED:

1. Presentation
2. Program Options Template
3. Incomplete list of WWTP Repairs
4. Invoices from 2022, 2023, and 2024

ACTION REQUESTED OF COMMISSION:

Discussion and Decision on whether to agree to a contract and which contract option best suits the Utility.

Program Comparisons and Coverages

Service & Items Covered

City of Columbus WWTP	Semi-Annual Maintenance Program	<u>Combo GPM Program</u> Complete transfer of risk and responsibility to flat line rising operating expenses.	<u>GLP Maintenance Program</u> Complete transfer of risk and responsibility to flat line rising operating expenses, which includes system replacement.
Preventative Maintenance			
PM Labor & Parts			
Repair & Replace Labor			
Emergency Service & Trouble Calls (24/7)			
Moveable & Maintainable Parts			
Coils, Heat Exchangers, Heat Wheels, Compressors, etc.			
Start-Up Cost Assistance (10% of the full annual value of the agreement. Start-up investment only occurs in 1st year)			
Cost Share Program			
Equipment Replacement			
	$\$9,036.00 + \$30,000$ = \$39,036.00	\$37,404.00	\$45,264.00



BASSETT MECHANICAL

▪ CONTRACTING ▪ ENGINEERING ▪ METAL FABRICATING ▪ SERVICE

CITY OF COLUMBUS WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT

HVAC PM Service Provider

Item #4.

OVERVIEW



COMPLETE
SOLUTIONS



WHAT WE
HEARD



WHAT WE
FOUND

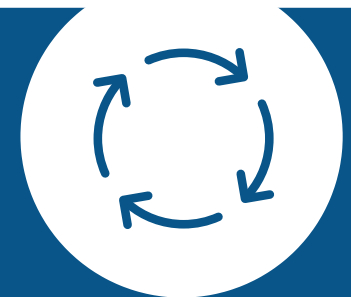


WE CAN
HELP



WHAT
SETS US
APART

COMPLETE SOLUTIONS



HISTORY AND FAMILY OWNERSHIP

Creating Customers for Life® since 1936



1936
3rd generation
family owned.
Founded in 1936



1940-1960
Launched ammonia
refrigeration business.
HVAC engineering started
in 1945. In 1956 Engineers
were added to provide
heavy commercial HVAC
design/build capabilities.



1990's
Moved to 268,000 sq. ft.
manufacturing facility
capable of prefabricating
large-scale units and
preassemblies for easy on-
site installation.

From one man and a
truck to 5 locations
and over 500
associates today.



1970-1990
Sheet metal department added
in 1973 to support HVAC
engineering and industrial vent.
Opened offices in Madison &
Milwaukee, Wisconsin



TODAY
We are your full-service
provider for designing,
fabricating, installing,
controlling, and servicing
your industrial refrigeration,
HVAC, and plumbing
system. Serving customers
from 5 locations across
Wisconsin and Minnesota.



DESIGN. FABRICATE. INSTALL. SERVICE.

Safely bringing ideas to life through responsible design, custom manufacturing and service.



INDUSTRIAL REFRIGERATION

Tap into more than 85 years of experience designing, fabricating, controlling, installing, and servicing industrial refrigeration systems. We have the knowledge to make your project a success.



HVAC

We provide cost-effective, energy-efficient, and safe commercial and industrial HVAC solutions that are completed on-time and customized to your unique facility or process needs.



PLUMBING

From retrofitting an existing system to installing a brand new one, our licensed designers, master plumbers, and skilled trades get the job done right.



HVAC & PLC CONTROLS

Our team of experts design flexible, cost-effective systems based on your needs, provide onsite training and remote support, and maximize your software experience.



METAL FABRICATION

Specializing in unique and custom designs, we have the versatility, expertise, certifications, equipment, and manufacturing facility to bring your project to life.



SERVICE

Customizable maintenance programs and 24-hour emergency service proven to reduce costs, minimize downtime, and extend the life of your equipment.

"Delivering you best in-class service through dedicated people in a safe and timely manner. Each time. Every time."



Safety

- Experience Modification Rate (EMR) Incident Rate .93
- OSHA Incident Rate 3.08



Speed & Response

- On-time preventative maintenance (plan, scheduled & measured)
- Structured tasking
- Assigned technicians
- Tech availability with 5 locations across the State of Wisconsin
- Over 100 Technicians - 6 techs on call 24/7/365



Strong Communication

- Dedicated service coordination team
- Web viewing and service reporting
- C.A.R.E. (Customer Assurance Review and Evaluation)



Expertise & Knowledge

- Fully-trained, experienced technicians
- Certifications: UA Star, RETA, EPA Universal
- 5-year apprenticeship
- Properly equipped 65 vans

WE CAN HELP

establish long-term partnerships in Columbus.

Customer	Years of Partnership
American Packaging Columbus	10 years
Eggers Imprints	2 years
IPC	5 years
Enerpac	11 years

WE CAN HELP

Current Wastewater Treatment Plant Customers

City of Beaver Dam

Delafield Hartland

City of Sun Prairie

Village of Mukwonago

City of Janesville

City of Fond du Lac

City of Portage

Village of Winneconne

WHAT WE HEARD



WHAT WE HEARD

City of Columbus is searching for a new HVAC Service Provider to partner with on the Wastewater Treatment Plant Operations maintenance program.

Looking to manage budget expectations with a pre-planned time and material cost or a Fixed Cost Maintenance Program.

WHAT WE FOUND



WHAT WE FOUND

Aged and expiring equipment



WHAT WE FOUND

Broken or worn belts

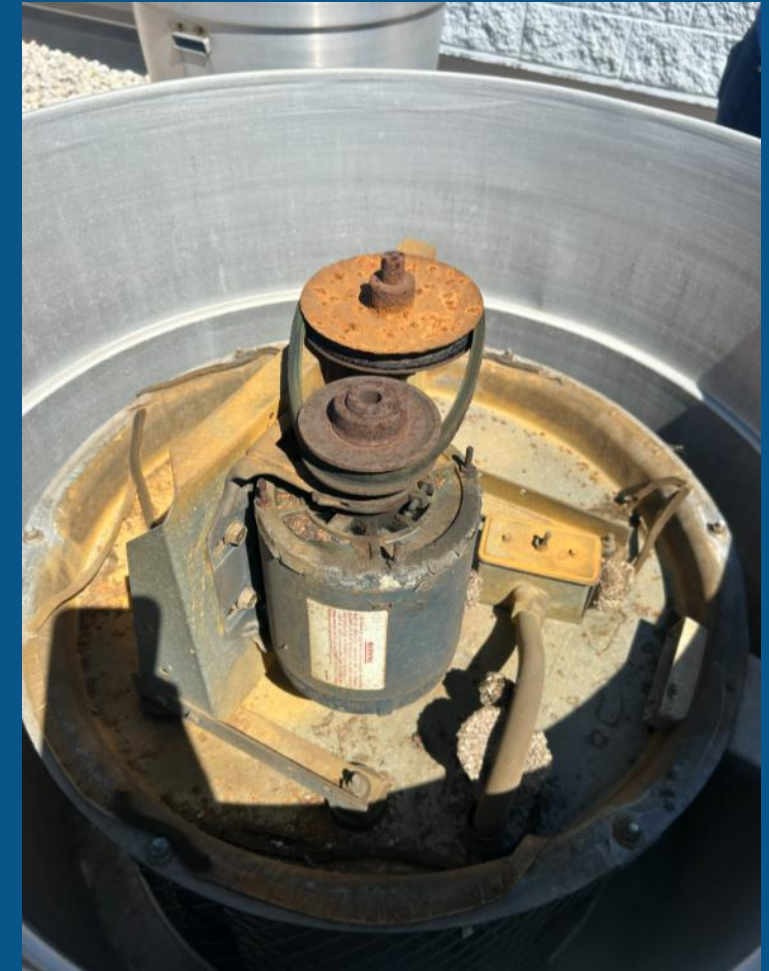


WHAT WE FOUND

Rusting and abandoned units

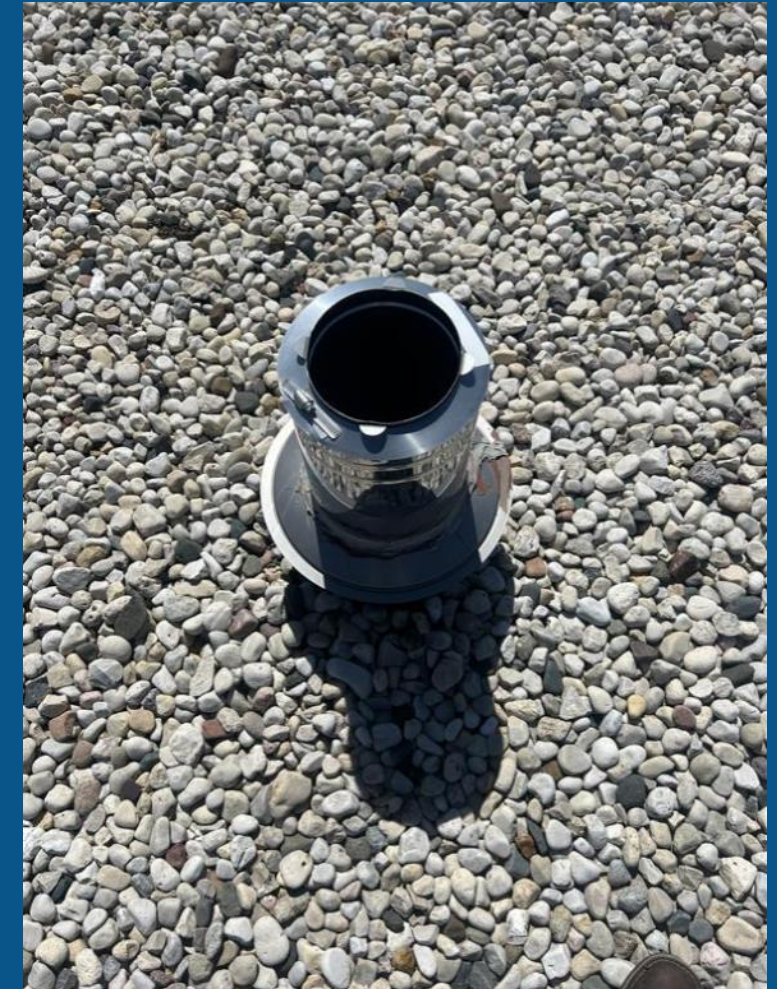


WHAT WE FOUND



WHAT WE FOUND

Missing components

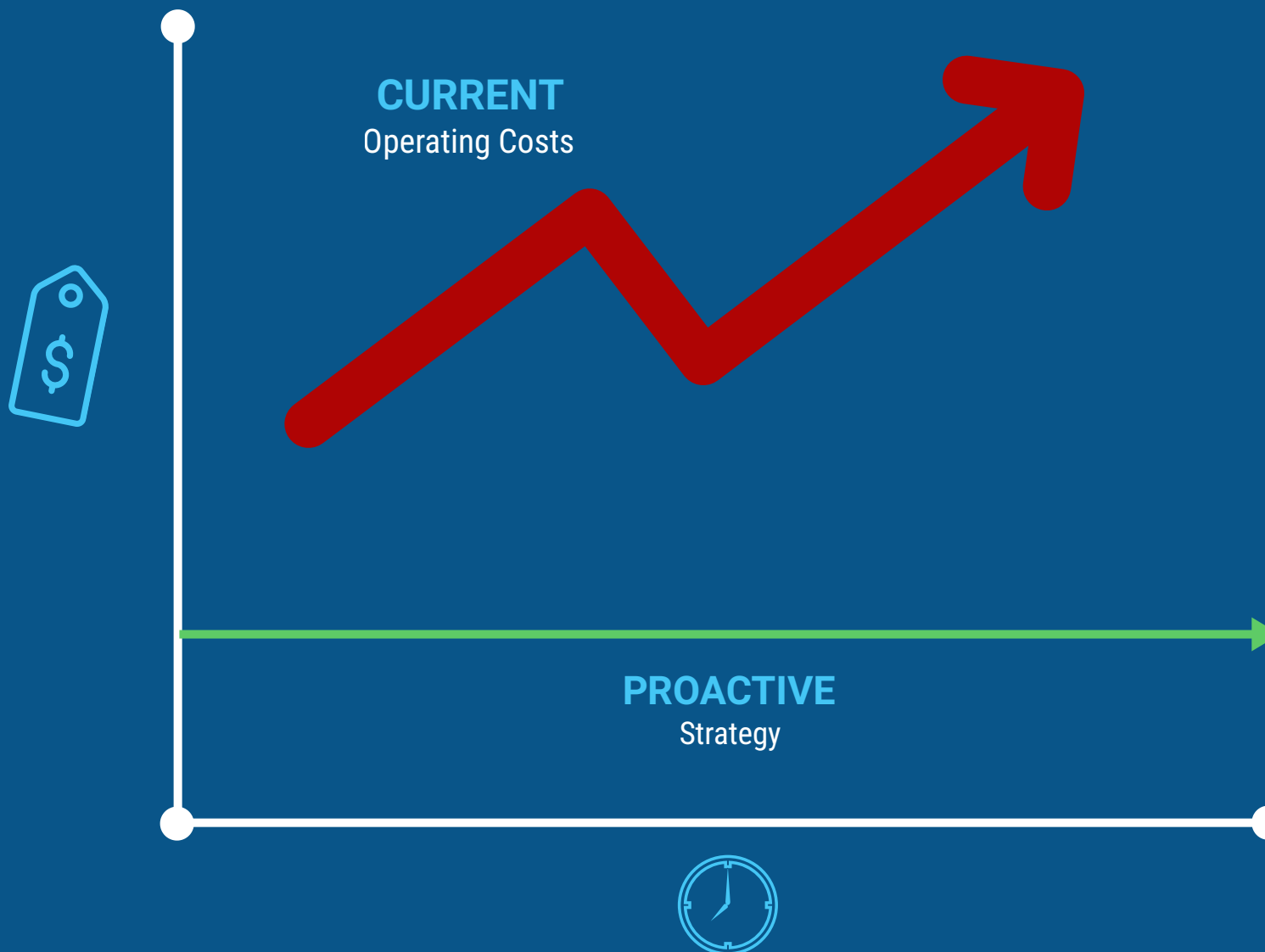


WE CAN HELP



WE CAN HELP

budget unpredictable costs, increase system reliability, and mitigate your risk



Task Detail | History

Equipment Type: PACKAGED RTU GAS HEAT W/ ECON

Primary Month | Secondary Month | Weekly | Daily | Reading Types

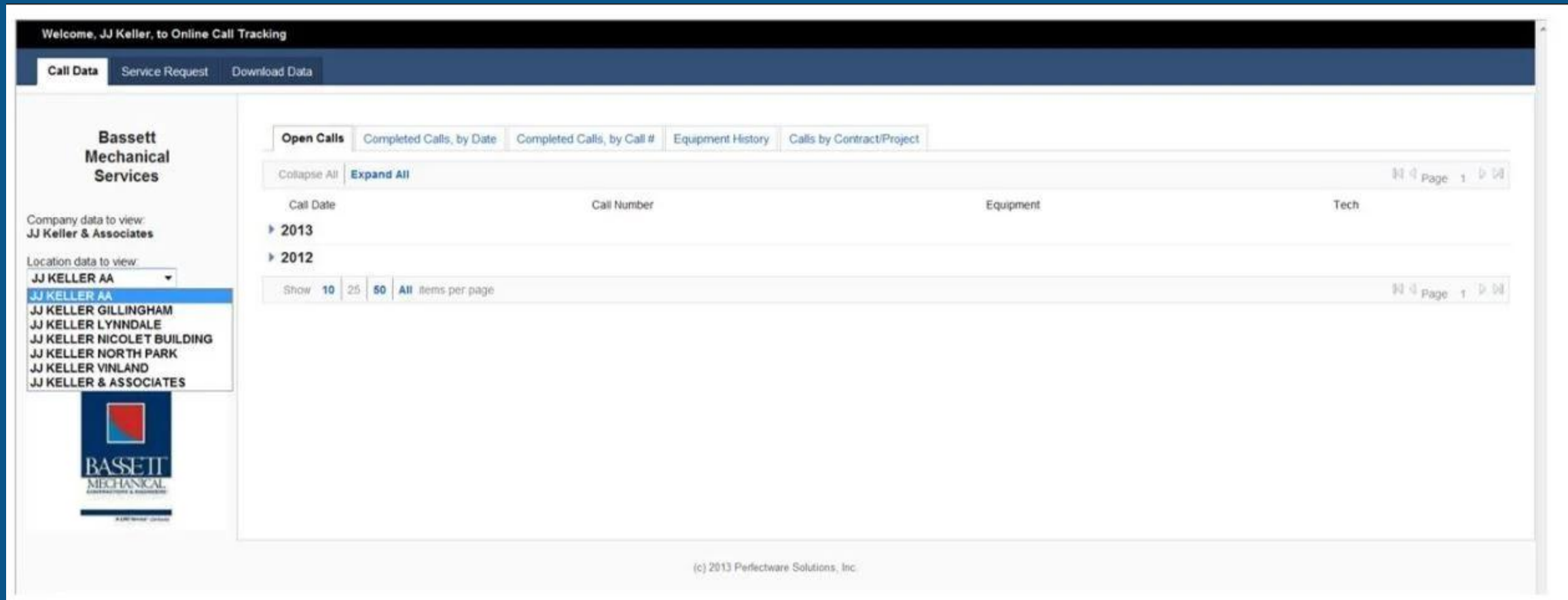
PM | Inspection

- ☐ Inspect all wiring terminals and connectors for tightness
- ☐ Inspect contactors
- ☐ Check all transformers for proper input/output voltage
- ☐ Sequence test all components
- ☐ Record blower amp draw (3 hp and higher)
- ☐ Check all fans for unusual noise or vibration
- ☐ Lubricate bearings as needed
- ☐ Check belts and bearings and pulleys for wear if applicable
- ☐ Inspect blower wheel housings and brackets - clean as needed
- ☐ Check belts for proper tension and alignment
- ☐ Sequence test economizer operating controls
- ☐ Check and set economizer minimum air
- ☐ Check economizer damper operation
- ☐ Check crankcase heaters if applicable
- ☐ Visually inspect for oil or refrigerant leaks
- ☐ Record ambient temp
- ☐ Record compressor suction pressure- discharge pressure- superheat- sub cooling- operating amps #1 & #2
- ☐ Check the operation of capacity controls if applicable
- ☐ Inspect all coil surfaces - brush as needed
- ☐ Inspect condensate pan and drain - clean as needed
- ☐ Check all unit compartments - clean as needed
- ☐ Inspect air filters and economizer filter
- ☐ Verify proper operation
- ☐ Inspect all wiring terminals and connectors for tightness
- ☐ Inspect contactors
- ☐ Check all transformers for proper input/output voltage
- ☐ Sequence test all components
- ☐ Record blower amp draw (3 hp and higher)
- ☐ Check all fans for unusual noise or vibration
- ☐ Lubricate bearings as needed
- ☐ Check belts and bearings and pulleys for wear if applicable
- ☐ Inspect blower wheel housings and brackets - clean as needed
- ☐ Check belts for proper tension and alignment
- ☐ Sequence test economizer operating controls
- ☐ Check and set economizer minimum air
- ☐ Check economizer damper operation
- ☐ Check crankcase heaters if applicable
- ☐ Inspect draft fan for proper operation
- ☐ Clean burners and pilot assemblies igniters and sensors
- ☐ Check for gas leaks
- ☐ Verify proper operation of all safety controls
- ☐ Sequence test ignition and all related controls
- ☐ Check gas pressures
- ☐ Inspect condensate pan - clean as needed
- ☐ Inspect air filters and economizer filter
- ☐ Verify proper operation

WE CAN HELP with
customized maintenance
tasking.

WE CAN HELP

with Web Viewing. View all your facilities and equipment from one screen.



The screenshot displays the 'Online Call Tracking' web application. At the top, a dark header bar contains the text 'Welcome, JJ Keller, to Online Call Tracking'. Below this, a navigation bar includes tabs for 'Call Data', 'Service Request', and 'Download Data'. The left sidebar features the 'Bassett Mechanical Services' logo and a dropdown menu for 'Company data to view: JJ Keller & Associates'. Under 'Location data to view:', a list of locations is shown, with 'JJ KELLER AA' selected. The main content area has tabs for 'Open Calls', 'Completed Calls, by Date', 'Completed Calls, by Call #', 'Equipment History', and 'Calls by Contract/Project'. The 'Open Calls' tab is active, showing a table with columns for 'Call Date', 'Call Number', 'Equipment', and 'Tech'. The table lists calls for 2013 and 2012. A pagination bar at the bottom indicates 'Page 1' and '50 items per page'. The footer contains the copyright notice '(c) 2013 Perfectware Solutions, Inc.'.

WE CAN HELP with Bassett Mechanical's Agreement Kickoff



Start-Up Meeting

Introductions (Dedicated technician, project manager, and service manager)

ISO:9001 First Visit Checklist

Discuss the current condition of the equipment

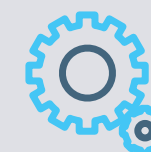


Inventory Management

Verify equipment on-site

Verify filter and belt sizes

Custom labels for equipment accuracy and asset management

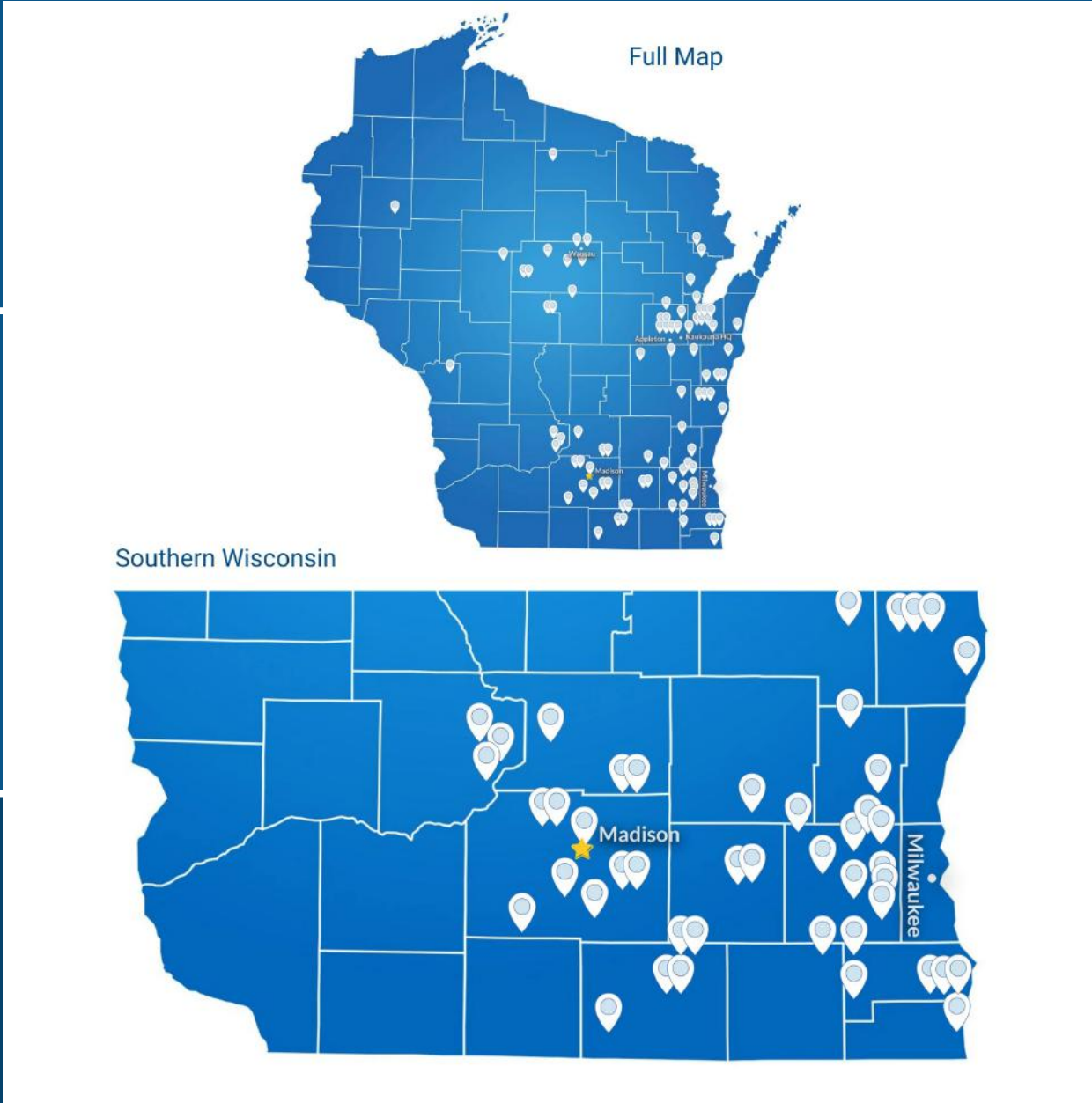


First PM

Completed by supervisor and dedicated technician

WE CAN HELP

by providing 24/7/365 maintenance service with over 100 highly experienced and certified service technicians.







Service Equipment Replacement Plan

Date: April 13, 2018

Enter Company Name

Prepared by: Project Manager's Name

Equipment ID	Current System	Current Condition/Age	Replacement System	Lead Time	Budget Price

Units Replaced:	Year Replaced:

KAUKAUNA, WI (HQ)
1215 Hyland Ave.
Kaukauna, WI 54130

MILWAUKEE, WI
W136 N4829 Campbell Dr.
Menomonee Falls, WI 53051

MADISON, WI
4017 Owl Creek Dr.
Madison, WI 53718

WAUSAU, WI
4403 Stewart Ave., Suite B
Wausau, WI 54401

ROCHESTER, MN
570 High Point Dr. NE
Byron, MN 55920



www.BassettMechanical.com
(800) 236-2500

WE CAN HELP
with an Equipment Replacement
Plan. Work with your dedicated
Project Solutions Representative to
create a long-term replacement
plan for your aging equipment.

WHAT SETS US APART



Services & Items Covered	CPM2	GPM	GPM+	GLP
	Preventive Maintenance Agreements	Full Coverage Agreements		
Equipment Replacement				
Heat Exchangers and Coils				
Maintainable and Moving Parts				
Emergency Service & Trouble Calls				
Repair & Replace Labor				
Preventive Maintenance Labor/Parts				
	Less	Coverage/Protection Level		More
	Reactive	Operating Cost Strategy		Proactive

Our Guaranteed Programs offer complete coverage of movable and maintainable components and parts inside the HVAC equipment.

Typical PM Program VS Bassett Mechanical's

Guaranteed Professional Maintenance Program

Common Issue	Typical	Bassett
Improper P.M.	You Pay	Bassett Pays
Major Repair	You Pay	Bassett Pays
Emergency Service	You Pay	Bassett Pays
Over Looked Problem	You Pay	Bassett Pays
Parts & Materials	You Pay	Bassett Pays
Normal Wear	You Pay	Bassett Pays
Wrong or Inferior Parts	You Pay	Bassett Pays
Equipment Replacement	You Pay	Bassett Pays

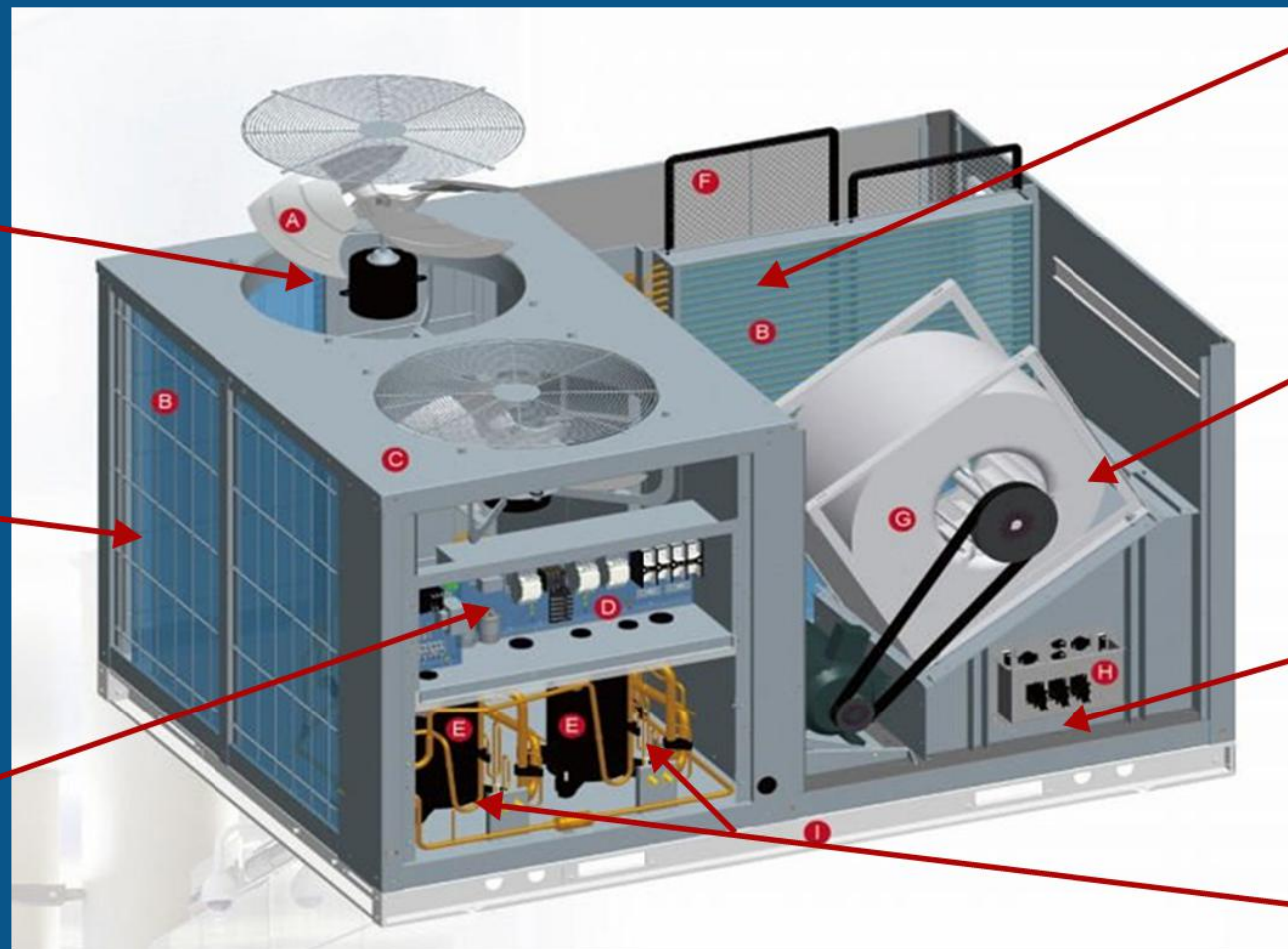
- Typical Program - Costs covered by owner
- Bassett Guaranteed Program - Costs covered by Bassett Mechanical

EQUIPMENT COST EXAMPLE

A. Condenser fan motors
• Typical Mechanical
Failure - \$500 - \$1,500

B. Condenser Coil
• Typical Mechanical
Failure - \$6,000 - \$8,000

D. Controls Systems
• Range \$500 - \$5,000



B. Evaporator Coil
• Typical Mechanical
Failure - \$5,000 - \$7,000

G. Blower Motor Assembly
• Typical Mechanical
Failure - \$2,500 - \$4,000

H. Heat Exchanger
• Typical Failure - \$3,500 - \$5,000

E. Scroll Compressors
• Typical Mechanical
Failure - \$6,000 - \$8,000

SUPPORTING CRITICAL CUSTOMERS

with customized around-the-clock maintenance service 24/7/365

Food/Beverage
Production & Cold
Storage



Industrial
Manufacturing &
Foundries

Process and
Production



Healthcare,
Biomedical &
Biotechnology

Paper, Plastics &
Printing



Office & Commercial
Buildings

Safety & Building
Health



Many more
customized
solutions

Thank You!

Creating Customers for Life®
BassettMechanical.com

HVAC and Boiler Repairs Columbus WWTP

2022	2023	2024
\$600.32	\$47,974.84	\$3,895.00
\$1,360.45	\$47,974.84	\$532.78
		\$4,541.42
		\$3,675.31
		\$7,961.31
		\$1,800.53
\$1,960.77	\$95,949.68	\$22,406.35



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2801 Syene Rd
Madison, WI 53713-3203
www.1901inc.com
Office: 608.308.1901 **Fax:** 608.273.9654

Item #4.

INVOICE NO. 22-3933

BILL TO COLUMBUS WASTE WATER TREATMENT
537 RIVER ROAD
COLUMBUS, WI 53925

JOB AS221680
COLUMBUS WWTP AS221680*QEE
REPLACE CARRIER THERMOSTAT
KATIE 920-350-2631
537 RIVER ROAD
COLUMBUS, WI 53925

ACCOUNT	INVOICE DATE	PO NUMBER	DUE DATE	JOB NUMBER	PAGE
COLUMWWT	9/28/2022		10/28/2022	AS221680	1

ATTN: KATIE (920) 350-2631

WORK REQUESTED: REPLACE CARRIER THERMOSTAT

WORK COMPLETED: removed old thermostat parts and installed new thermostat. Programmed for 5-2 work week

ITEM QTY.	DESCRIPTION OF ITEM	ITEM PRICE	ITEM TOTAL
2	HVAC SERVICE TECH LABOR	150.00	300.00*
1	1 - 2-STAGE HOT/COOL PROGRAMMABLE TSTAT_SERIAL #1521M193341 FUEL SURCHARGE	300.32	300.32*

FINAL BILLING

TOTAL AMOUNT: 600.32

* means item is non-taxable

Amounts over 30 days subject to 1-1/2% service charge per month	AMOUNT DUE:	600.32
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Item #4.

INVOICE NO. 22-5408

BILL TO COLUMBUS WASTE WATER TREATMENT
537 RIVER ROAD
COLUMBUS, WI 53925

JOB AS222232
COLUMBUS WWTP AS222232*WWTP
NO HEAT IN MAIN BUILDING
KATIE 920-350-2631
537 RIVER ROAD
COLUMBUS, WI 53925

ACCOUNT	INVOICE DATE	PO NUMBER	DUE DATE	JOB NUMBER	PAGE
COLUMWWT	12/21/2022		1/20/2023	AS222232	1

ATTN: KATIE (920) 350-2631

WORK REQUESTED: NO HEAT IN MAIN BUILDING

WORK COMPLETED: 12/06/2022 - Arrived on site and met with the maintenance staff to review the HVAC concerns that they had regarding their hot water heating system. Upon arrival, the main boiler was not operating. Troubleshooting the boiler found that the 15 amp fuse within the burner controls compartment had opened/blown. An initial inspection of the wiring within the controls cabinet did not indicate a cause of the blown fuse and the proper incoming voltage was present. Installed a new 15amp fuse and restarted the boiler to check the operation. Before the boiler started, the flue box and burner tubes were examined and it was found that there was a lot of debris build up in the flue box and burner tubes. Cleaned out the flue box of debris and informed the client about the burner tubes being fouled. Restarted the burner/boiler and tested the boiler in high and low fire. Combustion analysis showed that the fouled tubes were elevating the CO levels within the combustion gas; recommend a thorough cleaning of the burner tubes in the spring or before next heating season. Found that the boiler control flow switch is bad and stuck in the open or 'flow' position. After getting the boiler restarted, there was still no hot water flowing through the baseboard heaters and unit heaters within the facility, the cause of which was found to be 4 gate valves were closed and one triple duty valve was closed within the boiler mechanical room. Opened all of the closed valves and found that there was minimal flow through the heating system; the cause of the low flow was hot water system pump #1 was running backwards. Swapped two incoming voltage wires going to pump #1 to get the pump rotating in the proper direction. After establishing flow through the hot water system, the system pressure would not get above 5 psig, even with the make-up water valve completely open. The cause of the low system pressure was found to be a failed hot water coil in a unit heater for one of the chemical water treatment rooms. The coil ruptured due to a lack of water flow through the coil from a ball valve being closed on the supply water side of the coil. The leak caused all of the system water to drain below the level of the broken tube(s), which allowed a substantial amount of air to get trapped in approx. 1/2 of the total hot water piping, all of which resides above the level of the water leak. Valved off the leaking coil properly and went to several air bleeds at the highest point in the system to bleed a significant amount of air from the system. The hot water system began heating properly once the air was removed from the circuit. There are a few zones that are still cool to the touch, but most of those zones are also heated by AHUs. The client was made aware of the zone issues. There is evidence of a possible small hairline crack in the boiler heat exchanger based on the small amount of water coming from the bottom of the boiler and the overall deterioration of the boiler shroud housing at the base of the unit. The maintenance staff also had concerns regarding a secondary building that had make-up air units that were not operating properly. The make-up air units (labeled 30-AHU-01 and 30-AHU-02) both had their freeze protection switches tripped which was preventing the fan from operating. The make-up air units have heating only hot water coils that are constant flow with bypass dampers installed that divert air around the coils when no heat is required. The reason for the tripped freeze stats was found to be improperly programmed Honeywell system unit controllers on each of the units; the hot water coil air dampers were programmed as 'cooling' coils rather than heating coils, which would cause the air bypass dampers to close with a call for heat and open the air bypass dampers with a call for cooling. The controls were reprogrammed and the air bypass dampers

Amounts over 30 days subject to 1-1/2% service charge per month	AMOUNT DUE:	1,360.45
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Item #4.

INVOICE NO. 22-5408

BILL TO COLUMBUS WASTE WATER TREATMENT
537 RIVER ROAD
COLUMBUS, WI 53925

JOB AS222232
COLUMBUS WWTP AS222232*WWTP
NO HEAT IN MAIN BUILDING
KATIE 920-350-2631
537 RIVER ROAD
COLUMBUS, WI 53925

ACCOUNT	INVOICE DATE	PO NUMBER	DUE DATE	JOB NUMBER	PAGE
COLUMWWT	12/21/2022		1/20/2023	AS222232	2

stroked properly for heat application. The pillow bearings and motor bearings in 30-AHU-02 are all bad and need replacing; the maintenance staff is aware of the bad bearings and are working on replacing the bearings in the near future. Returned the make-up air units to normal operation. Lochinvar boiler #2, which serves the hot water coils in the make-up air units, was in alarm for low gas pressure. The initial inlet gas pressure to the boiler was measured at 2.4"wc, which is well below the minimum inlet gas pressure rating of 4.0" wc. To verify the inlet gas pressure at the outlet of the gas regulator, the gas valve was closed just upstream of the boiler inlet piping. The gas line was bleed for a few seconds and the inlet gas pressure was retested and measured 10.6"wc. The gas valve was then opened and the inlet gas pressure at the boiler measured the same 10.6"wc as the outlet of the gas regulator. The boiler was restarted and returned to normal operation. The cause of the low gas pressure could be a gas regulator that might be failing or the spring is getting weak or stuck within the regulator. The client was informed of all the issues that were found during the site visit before leaving the site. All units were returned to normal operation besides the unit heater that has a ruptured hot water coil. The client will be contacting 1901 inc regarding boiler replacement.

ITEM QTY.	DESCRIPTION OF ITEM	ITEM PRICE	ITEM TOTAL
8	HVAC SERVICE TECH LABOR	150.00	1,200.00*
1	2 - TIME DELAY FUSES COMBUSTION ANALYSIS TEST FEE FUEL SURCHARGE	160.45	160.45*

FINAL BILLING

TOTAL AMOUNT: 1,360.45

* means item is non-taxable

Amounts over 30 days subject to 1-1/2% service charge per month	AMOUNT DUE:	1,360.45
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www.1901inc.com
Office: 608.308.1901 Fax: 608.273.9654

Item #4.

INVOICE NO. 23-4043

BILL TO COLUMBUS WASTE WATER TREATMENT
537 RIVER ROAD
COLUMBUS, WI 53925

JOB HVAC23020
COLUMBUS WWTP HVAC23020 *QEEmy
REMOVE AND INSTALL BOILERS
KATIE ANDING
537 RIVER ROAD
COLUMBUS, WI 53925

ACCOUNT	INVOICE DATE	PO NUMBER	DUE DATE	JOB NUMBER	PAGE
COLUMWWT	9/30/2023		10/30/2023	HVAC23020	1

ATTN: Katie Anding

RE: Boiler Replacement Proposal

THE UNDERSIGNED PROPOSES THE FOLLOWING SCOPE OF WORK:

- Disconnect and Safe Removal of Existing Near Boiler Gas, Venting, Electrical, Water Piping, and Controls From Existing Boiler and Pumps
- Procurement and and Installation of Qty:3 Lochinvar WHB399 Wall Mount Natural Gas Fire Tube Boilers With (10:1 burner turndown)
- Installation of Qty:3 110 Volt Boiler Circuits, Qty:2 3phase Pump Circuits
- Installation of Qty:2 Taco VR15H High Efficiency ECM Circulators 1HP
- Installation of New Butterfly Isolation Valves, Installation of New Pump Flanges, Installation of New Boiler and Pump Check Valves
- Installation of New 3" Wye Strainers to Protect Boilers and System Pumps.
- Installation of New 3" Coalescing Air/Dirt Separator To Protect System Components and Automatically Remove Air
- Installation and Nitrogen Charge of Calefactio 30 Gallon Bladder Expansion Tank
- Installation of New Pressure and Temperature Stations at System Inlet, System Outlet, Primary Loop Inlet, Primary Loop Outlet
- Installation of New Outside Air Sensor, Installation of Loop Sensor, and Boiler Cascade Wiring
- Installation of Tekmar 132 Pump Sequencer with Flow Switch to Provide Automatic Pump Sequencing and Lead/Lag Operation
- Includes Installation of New 4" PVC Intake and Exhaust
- Includes Installation of a Modern Primary/Secondary System, Boiler Relief Piping, Boiler Inlet Piping, Boiler Outlet Piping, and Gas Piping
- Installation of New Taco 329 Pressure Reducing Valve Station
- Installation GWS FB-2 Combination Chemical Pot Feeder/Water Filter, with Spare Filters (Will allow for greater filtration and water Chemistry)
- Includes all Rigging and Transportation
- Includes Complete Project Management
- Includes Permits and Registration Assistance
- Includes Assistance with Focus On Energy Application (Similar Job in Cross Plains Received a \$6,500 Rebate
- Includes Fiberglass Wrap and Piping Insulation of Near Boiler Components
- Includes Factory Startup and Owner Training/Familiarization
- Includes Near Boiler Piping Identification and Directional Arrows
- Installation of Code Compliant Condensate Neutralizers and Drain Piping
- Asbestos Abatement By Customer

NOTES:

Amounts over 30 days subject to 1-1/2% service charge per month	AMOUNT DUE:	47,974.84
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Madison, WI 53713-3203
www.1901inc.com
Office: 608.308.1901 Fax: 608.273.9654

Item #4.

INVOICE NO. 23-4043

BILL TO COLUMBUS WASTE WATER TREATMENT
537 RIVER ROAD
COLUMBUS, WI 53925

JOB HVAC23020
COLUMBUS WWTP HVAC23020 *QEEmy
REMOVE AND INSTALL BOILERS
KATIE ANDING
537 RIVER ROAD
COLUMBUS, WI 53925

ACCOUNT	INVOICE DATE	PO NUMBER	DUE DATE	JOB NUMBER	PAGE
COLUMWWT	9/30/2023		10/30/2023	HVAC23020	2

-PRICING IS VALID FOR 15 DAYS FROM QUOTE DATE.
-WORK TO BE PERFORMED MON-FRI BETWEEN 7AM-3:30PM.
-CUSTOMER TO PROVIDE CLEAR UNOBSTRUCTED ACCESS AND REQUIRED SYSTEM(S) DOWNTIME FOR WORK TO BE PERFORMED.
-EQUIPMENT START-UP AND OEM WARRANTY IS INCLUDED.
-PREVIOUS DIAGNOSTIC OR SERVICE WORK IS EXCLUDED. ADDITIONAL REPAIRS, EQUIPMENT, PARTS, OR RENTALS NOT -LISTED ABOVE ARE EXCLUDED.

AS PER PROPOSAL DATED: 08/06/2023: \$95,949.68

ITEM QTY.	DESCRIPTION OF ITEM	ITEM PRICE	ITEM TOTAL
1	PARTIAL #1	47,974.84	47,974.84*

PARTIAL BILLING

TOTAL AMOUNT: 47,974.84

* means item is non-taxable

Amounts over 30 days subject to 1-1/2% service charge per month	AMOUNT DUE:	47,974.84
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Item #4.

INVOICE NO. 23-4832

BILL TO COLUMBUS WASTE WATER TREATMENT
537 RIVER ROAD
COLUMBUS, WI 53925

JOB HVAC23020
COLUMBUS WWTP HVAC23020 *QEEmy
REMOVE AND INSTALL BOILERS
KATIE ANDING
537 RIVER ROAD
COLUMBUS, WI 53925

ACCOUNT	INVOICE DATE	PO NUMBER	DUE DATE	JOB NUMBER	PAGE
COLUMWWT	10/31/2023		11/30/2023	HVAC23020	1

ATTN: Katie Anding

RE: Boiler Replacement Proposal

THE UNDERSIGNED PROPOSES THE FOLLOWING SCOPE OF WORK:

- Disconnect and Safe Removal of Existing Near Boiler Gas, Venting, Electrical, Water Piping, and Controls From Existing Boiler and Pumps
- Procurement and and Installation of Qty:3 Lochinvar WHB399 Wall Mount Natural Gas Fire Tube Boilers With (10:1 burner turndown)
- Installation of Qty:3 110 Volt Boiler Circuits, Qty:2 3phase Pump Circuits
- Installation of Qty:2 Taco VR15H High Efficiency ECM Circulators 1HP
- Installation of New Butterfly Isolation Valves, Installation of New Pump Flanges, Installation of New Boiler and Pump Check Valves
- Installation of New 3" Wye Strainers to Protect Boilers and System Pumps.
- Installation of New 3" Coalescing Air/Dirt Separator To Protect System Components and Automatically Remove Air
- Installation and Nitrogen Charge of Calefactio 30 Gallon Bladder Expansion Tank
- Installation of New Pressure and Temperature Stations at System Inlet, System Outlet, Primary Loop Inlet, Primary Loop Outlet
- Installation of New Outside Air Sensor, Installation of Loop Sensor, and Boiler Cascade Wiring
- Installation of Tekmar 132 Pump Sequencer with Flow Switch to Provide Automatic Pump Sequencing and Lead/Lag Operation
- Includes Installation of New 4" PVC Intake and Exhaust
- Includes Installation of a Modern Primary/Secondary System, Boiler Relief Piping, Boiler Inlet Piping, Boiler Outlet Piping, and Gas Piping
- Installation of New Taco 329 Pressure Reducing Valve Station
- Installation GWS FB-2 Combination Chemical Pot Feeder/Water Filter, with Spare Filters (Will allow for greater filtration and water Chemistry)
- Includes all Rigging and Transportation
- Includes Complete Project Management
- Includes Permits and Registration Assistance
- Includes Assistance with Focus On Energy Application (Similar Job in Cross Plains Received a \$6,500 Rebate
- Includes Fiberglass Wrap and Piping Insulation of Near Boiler Components
- Includes Factory Startup and Owner Training/Familiarization
- Includes Near Boiler Piping Identification and Directional Arrows
- Installation of Code Compliant Condensate Neutralizers and Drain Piping
- Asbestos Abatement By Customer

NOTES:

Amounts over 30 days subject to 1-1/2% service charge per month	AMOUNT DUE:	47,974.84
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Item #4.

INVOICE NO. 23-4832

BILL TO COLUMBUS WASTE WATER TREATMENT
537 RIVER ROAD
COLUMBUS, WI 53925

JOB HVAC23020
COLUMBUS WWTP HVAC23020 *QEEmy
REMOVE AND INSTALL BOILERS
KATIE ANDING
537 RIVER ROAD
COLUMBUS, WI 53925

ACCOUNT	INVOICE DATE	PO NUMBER	DUE DATE	JOB NUMBER	PAGE
COLUMWWT	10/31/2023		11/30/2023	HVAC23020	2

-PRICING IS VALID FOR 15 DAYS FROM QUOTE DATE.
-WORK TO BE PERFORMED MON-FRI BETWEEN 7AM-3:30PM.
-CUSTOMER TO PROVIDE CLEAR UNOBSTRUCTED ACCESS AND REQUIRED SYSTEM(S) DOWNTIME FOR WORK TO BE PERFORMED.
-EQUIPMENT START-UP AND OEM WARRANTY IS INCLUDED.
-PREVIOUS DIAGNOSTIC OR SERVICE WORK IS EXCLUDED. ADDITIONAL REPAIRS, EQUIPMENT, PARTS, OR RENTALS NOT LISTED ABOVE ARE EXCLUDED.

ITEM QTY.	DESCRIPTION OF ITEM	ITEM PRICE	ITEM TOTAL
1	AS PER PROPOSAL DATED: 08/06/2023	95,949.68	95,949.68*
1	LESS PARTIAL INVOICE #23-4043	-47,974.84	-47,974.84*

FINAL BILLING

TOTAL AMOUNT: 47,974.84

* means item is non-taxable

Amounts over 30 days subject to 1-1/2% service charge per month	AMOUNT DUE:	47,974.84
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Item #4.

INVOICE NO. 23-5619

BILL TO COLUMBUS WASTE WATER TREATMENT
537 RIVER ROAD
COLUMBUS, WI 53925

JOB AS231764
COLUMBUS WWTP AS231764*WWTP
TESTING HOT WATER TERMINAL UNT
KATIE 920-350-2631
537 RIVER ROAD
COLUMBUS, WI 53925

ACCOUNT	INVOICE DATE	PO NUMBER	DUE DATE	JOB NUMBER	PAGE
COLUMWWT	1/9/2024		2/8/2024	AS231764	1

ATTN: KATIE ANDING

WORK REQUESTED: TESTING HOT WATER TERMINAL UNT

WORK COMPLETED: 10/24/23: Troubleshoot through and traced pneumatic lines throughout the building. I have found many runs disconnected and found two leaks by the disconnected air handler #2 and by the new boilers. Most of the time was tracing the lines from the pneumatic control panel for AHU-2. I have found all of the lines to the dampers of this unit to be no longer in use and the only way for the air handler to run at this time is when the motor control is put in hand. AHU-2 only supplies the lab which is currently being served by a separate furnace/ac. The main air pressure was also adjusted from 10 psi to 18 psi on the regulator located off of the air drier as there are other leaks that have not been found that is causing the thermostats and valves to not function properly. The thermostat in the main office has been calibrated to 5.5 psi as the valve calls for this for proper calibration. Once calibrated and the lines restored with enough air pressure to overcome the spring, the office will no longer over heat. The locker room was also calibrated but the actuator and valve need to be replaced. I have shut off the return ball valve to 3/4 to avoid overheating the space until a replacement can be installed. The unit heater in the main entrance is leaking by and requires further troubleshooting. The remainder of the day was going through the mess of abandoned pneumatic lines that still have pressure. There are unit heaters in each restricted chlorine rooms to the east of the boiler room. Each room has pneumatic lines run in the same conduit as the power lines to the fan control. It looks like the units used to be controlled via pneumatic thermostats but have been converted to electric thermostats that only control the fan on the units. Only one of these unit heaters which is located on the 4th room to the east of the boiler room still has a pneumatic actuator but there is no pneumatic thermostat and the lines are disconnected. The final unit heater was also turned off by a shutoff valve and will require more troubleshooting. I will need a return trip to finish going through the remaining terminal units and to calibrate there thermostats some of which do not have any thermostats and the lines have been bypassed.

10/24/23: Finished going through the remainder of the units. I have a separate data sheet with repairs needed. I was able to get the main office, office #1, the break room, and the hallway heaters to run and be able to heat on demand for this winter. All of the working thermostats have been calibrated. Two of the chemical room heaters have been disabled and one of the heaters has a leak and has been isolated. All of the repairs are detailed on the separate data sheet. I also recommend that all the pneumatic lines be ran with new to avoid leaking as we are still down 8 psi from the supply pressure due to unknown leaks. While running new lines we would be able to remove any of the abandoned runs to avoid further confusion for anyone troubleshooting future issues.

ITEM QTY.	DESCRIPTION OF ITEM	ITEM PRICE	ITEM TOTAL
25	HVAC SERVICE TECH LABOR	155.00	3,875.00*
2	FUEL SURCHARGE	10.00	20.00*

Amounts over 30 days subject to 1-1/2% service charge per month

AMOUNT DUE:

3,895.00

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Item #4.

INVOICE NO. 23-5619

BILL TO COLUMBUS WASTE WATER TREATMENT
537 RIVER ROAD
COLUMBUS, WI 53925

JOB AS231764
COLUMBUS WWTP AS231764*WWTP
TESTING HOT WATER TERMINAL UNT
KATIE 920-350-2631
537 RIVER ROAD
COLUMBUS, WI 53925

ACCOUNT	INVOICE DATE	PO NUMBER	DUE DATE	JOB NUMBER	PAGE
COLUMWWT	1/9/2024		2/8/2024	AS231764	2

FINAL BILLING

TOTAL AMOUNT: 3,895.00

* means item is non-taxable

Amounts over 30 days subject to 1-1/2% service charge per month

AMOUNT DUE:

3,895.00

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Item #4.

INVOICE NO. 3611

CUSTOMER: COLUMBUS WASTE WATER TREATMENT SERVICE SITE: COLUMBUS WASTE WATER TREATMENT
537 RIVER RD 537 RIVER RD
COLUMBUS, WI 53925 COLUMBUS, WI 53925

CUSTOMER #	CUSTOMER PO #	INVOICE DATE	DUE DATE	WORK ORDER #
101363		05/01/24	05/31/24	241867

REQUESTED BY:

Jeremy
920-296-0418
02/28/24

WORK REQUESTED:

(2) boilers in solids bldg with pump alarm issues

WORK COMPLETED:

Trip Notes:

Arrived onsite and found the pumps that were going in alarm. Found that the flow switch had failed causing the pump controller to alarm out. One of the boilers had an alarm for ignition failure. Found that it had a failed inducer motor. Customer also wanted us to look at two unit heaters. Found that the thermostats on both units had failed. Sent information over to our estimating department for a quote.

QTY	ITEM TYPE	ITEM DESCRIPTION	ITEM PRICE	ITEM TOTAL
3.00	Labor	STRAIGHT TIME		495.00
	Materials			10.00
1.00		FUEL SURCHARGE		

Subtotal 505.00
Tax 27.78
Total 532.78

Payments		
Date	Check #	Amount
6/3/2024	23692	532
Balance Due		0

Amounts over 30 days subject to 1 - 1/2% service charge per month

AMOUNT DUE: 532.78

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Item #4.

INVOICE NO. 7080

CUSTOMER: COLUMBUS WASTE WATER TREATMENT SERVICE SITE: COLUMBUS WASTE WATER TREATMENT
537 RIVER RD 537 RIVER RD
COLUMBUS, WI 53925 COLUMBUS, WI 53925

CUSTOMER #	CUSTOMER PO #	INVOICE DATE	DUE DATE	WORK ORDER #
101363		09/06/24	10/06/24	243685

REQUESTED BY:
JEREMY ROLL
920-296-0418
07/18/24

QTY	ITEM TYPE	ITEM DESCRIPTION	ITEM PRICE	ITEM TOTAL
1		BOILER REPAIR	4,541.42	4,541.42

Subtotal 4,541.42
Tax 0.00
Total 4,541.42

Amounts over 30 days subject to 1 - 1/2% service charge per month	AMOUNT DUE:	4,541.42
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Item #4.

INVOICE NO. 3621

BILL TO COLUMBUS WASTE WATER TREATMENT
537 RIVER ROAD
COLUMBUS, WI 53925 US

JOB 240205-S-
COLUMBUS WWTP WATER SOFTENER
*QEE
537 RIVER RD
COLUMBUS, WI 53925

CONTRACT: 240205-S- COLUMBUS WWTP WATER SOFTENER *QEE

ACCOUNT	INVOICE DATE	PO NUMBER	DUE DATE	JOB NUMBER	PAGE
COLUMBUS WAST	05/01/24		05/31/24	240205-S-	1

ITEM QTY.	DESCRIPTION OF ITEM	ITEM PRICE	ITEM TOTAL
	FINAL WWTP WATER SOFTENER <i>ATTN: Jeremy</i> <i>RE: Columbus WWTP Water Softener</i> <i>Install water softener per quote.</i>		3,675.31 *

FINAL BILLING

TOTAL AMOUNT: 3,675.31

* means item is non-taxable

TAX: 0.00

TOTAL AMOUNT: 3,675.31

Amounts over 30 days subject to 1 - 1/2% service charge per month	AMOUNT DUE:	3,675.31
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Item #4.

INVOICE NO. 1295

BILL TO COLUMBUS WASTE WATER TREATMENT
537 RIVER ROAD
COLUMBUS, WI 53925 US

JOB 230531-M-
Columbus WWTP Repairs *QEE
REOPENED JO NON WIP-close may
537 River Road
Columbus, WI 53925

CONTRACT: 230531-M- Columbus WWTP Repairs *QEE REOPENED JO NON WIP-close may

ACCOUNT	INVOICE DATE	PO NUMBER	DUE DATE	JOB NUMBER	PAGE
COLUMBUS WAST	01/29/24		02/28/24	230531-M-	1

ITEM QTY.	DESCRIPTION OF ITEM	ITEM PRICE	ITEM TOTAL
	AS PER PROPOSAL ATED: 12/2/23 ATTN: Katie RE: Repairs Proposal Chemical Room 1, Chemical Room 2, Hallway Convactor 1, Hallway Convactor 3 THE UNDERSIGNED PROPOSES THE FOLLOWING SCOPE OF WORK: Procurement and Installation of Qty:2) 1/2HP 115 volt 1100 RPM Enclosure B Hot Water Unit Heater Prop Motors(Chemical Room 1) Disconnect and Reconnect of Electrical Conductors (Chemical Room 1) Re Purposing of Spare Hot Water Unit Heater From Boiler Room to Chemical Room 2. Includes Rigging, Hangers, Water Inlet Piping, and Water Outlet Piping of Chemical Room 2 Unit Heater. Includes Safe Disposal of Failed Unit Heater In Chemical Room 2. Procurement and Installation of New Pneumatic Heating Valve For Hallway Convactor 1. Procurement and Installation of New Pneumatic Heating Valve for Hallway Convactor 3. Procurement and Installation of New Pneumatic Thermostat For Hallway Convactor 3. Includes Complete Project Management Includes Startup and Commissioning of New Components. Note: Existing Electrical in Chemical Rooms May Not Meet Initial Design Requirements. Electrical Installation of Chemical Room 2 Heater Is by Customer Supplied Contractor. NOTES:		7,961.31 *

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Item #4.

INVOICE NO. 1295

BILL TO COLUMBUS WASTE WATER TREATMENT
537 RIVER ROAD
COLUMBUS, WI 53925 US

JOB 230531-M-
Columbus WWTP Repairs *QEE
REOPENED JO NON WIP-close may
537 River Road
Columbus, WI 53925

CONTRACT: 230531-M- Columbus WWTP Repairs *QEE REOPENED JO NON WIP-close may

ACCOUNT	INVOICE DATE	PO NUMBER	DUE DATE	JOB NUMBER	PAGE
COLUMBUS WAST	01/29/24		02/28/24	230531-M-	2

PRICING IS VALID FOR 30 DAYS FROM ESTIMATE DATE.

WORK TO BE PERFORMED MON-FRI BETWEEN 7AM-3:30PM.

*CUSTOMER TO PROVIDE CLEAR UNOBSTRUCTED ACCESS AND REQUIRED
SYSTEM(S) DOWNTIME FOR WORK TO BE PERFORMED.
EQUIPMENT START-UP AND OEM WARRANTY IS INCLUDED.*

PREVIOUS DIAGNOSTIC OR SERVICE WORK IS EXCLUDED.

*ADDITIONAL REPAIRS, EQUIPMENT, PARTS, OR RENTALS NOT LISTED
ABOVE ARE EXCLUDED.
LINE VOLTAGE ELECTRICAL WORK ASIDE FROM DISCONNECT/RECONNECT
WORK IS EXCLUDED.
CONDUIT OR RACEWAYS FOR LOW VOLTAGE WIRING IS EXCLUDED.*

FINAL BILLING

TOTAL AMOUNT: 7,961.31

* means item is non-taxable

TAX: 0.00

TOTAL AMOUNT: 7,961.31

Amounts over 30 days subject to 1 - 1/2% service charge per month	AMOUNT DUE:	7,961.31
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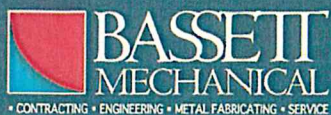
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July 2, 2024

Columbus Wastewater Treatment Plant
537 River Road
Columbus, WI 53925

Thank you for the opportunity to present you with a quote for the following work:

Requested by: Jon Zech
Scope of work: Replace explosion proof thermostat on exhaust fan
Quote/Call Number: QQ 192 / DM-44072
Quote Amount: \$1,800.53 (price does not include any applicable sales tax and/or freight charges)

The price stated above is guaranteed for fifteen (15) days from the date of this quote. If you would like to move forward with this work, please submit a purchase order (including the above referenced quote number) or sign below for approval.

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Looking forward to partnering with you,

Bassett Representative Daniel Murphy

Bassett Representative Title Service Coordinator

Customer Approval

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1215 Hyland Ave.
Kaukauna, WI 54130
920.759.2500

MILWAUKEE
W136 N4829 Campbell Dr.
Menomonee Falls, WI 53051
414.536.3500

MADISON
4017 Owl Creek Dr.
Madison, WI 53718
608.838.6362

WAUSAU
4403 Stewart Ave., Suite B
Wausau, WI 54401
715.298.2921

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2024 AGENDA ITEM

Utility Commission Meeting Date: 9/19/2024

ITEM: Eggers imprints Shared Savings Loan

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF SUBJECT MATTER:

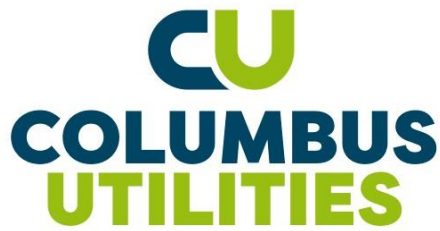
Eggers Imprints has completed their project and WPPI is requesting acceptance of the check of \$33,860 from WPPI, as well as issuing a check to Eggers Imprints for \$33,860, to be repaid with a 2% interest rate on their monthly utility bill. This money will then be passed onto WPPI via the monthly power bill.

LIST ALL SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION ATTACHED:

1. Memo from WPPI on Completion of Eggers Imprints Shared Savings Project

ACTION REQUESTED OF COMMISSION:

Acceptance and approval of requests.



Shared strength through WPPI Energy

950 Maple Avenue
PO Box 228
Columbus, WI 53925
Email: cwl@columbusutilitieswi.com

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FAX (920) 623-5923
www.columbusutilitieswi.com

Columbus Utilities

To: Columbus Utility Commission
From: Anna Stieve
CC: Jacob Holbert
Date: 9/10/2024
Re: Shared Savings Loan – Eggers Imprints LLC, Lighting Upgrade

Dear Utility Commission,

In May of 2024, the Columbus Utilities Commission approved a shared savings loan for Eggers Imprints LLC to complete a full LED upgrade of their facility. The total loan amount is \$33,860, which was borrowed at 2% interest over a term of 60 months. On September 10, 2024, I completed a site verification, confirming project completion.

The next steps for this project are as follows:

- WPPI Energy issues Columbus Utilities a check for \$33,860 (in process as of 9/10/2024).
- Columbus Utilities issues a check to Eggers Imprint LLC for \$33,860.
- Eggers Imprint LLC repays the loan via a line item on their utility bill. This is a monthly payment of \$593.49 for a term of 60 months.
- Columbus Utilities passes this payment of \$593.49 through to WPPI Energy on the utility's monthly power bill.

Please reach out to me directly with any questions.

All the Best,

Anna Stieve, P.E.
Senior Energy Services Manager Serving Columbus Utilities
WPPI Energy
608-825-1758

2024 AGENDA ITEM

Utility Commission Meeting Date: 9/19/2024

ITEM: Columbus Wastewater Treatment Qwik-Zyme D Case Study

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF SUBJECT MATTER:

Aquafix gathered lab data from samples collected at the wastewater plant through the term of the case study as well as utilized our in-house data collection to provide us with their Case Study Results. I would like to go through this report with the Commission if you so choose and more importantly discuss the results. Columbus Wastewater Utility will be continuing to utilize Aquafix and their Qwik-Zyme D product.

LIST ALL SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION ATTACHED:

1. Qwik-Zyme D Case Study Report

ACTION REQUESTED OF COMMISSION:

Discussion, Q&A, and Informative Report



Case Study on the Effectiveness of Qwik-Zyme D Application for Sludge Reduction in an Aerobic Digester at the Columbus, WI Wastewater Treatment Facility.

Saylor Gilbert

Aquafix, inc.

08-29-2024

Abstract

This study aims to evaluate the on-site impacts of Qwik-Zyme D, a product by Aquafix, Inc., in an aerobic digester at the Columbus, WI Wastewater Treatment Facility. Qwik-Zyme D is formulated to enhance the degradation of hard-to-degrade organic compounds and has shown promising results in boosting solids reduction in various field applications. Over a 12-week period (April 28 2024 – June 08 2024), the study was conducted using the plant's two aerobic digesters, with the South Digester treated with Qwik-Zyme D, while the North Digester served as a control. Additionally, operational changes were made which increased the number of decants in the South Digester, allowing for longer solids retention. Weekly composite samples were collected from both digesters, laboratory analysis focused on Oxygen Uptake Rate (OUR), Total Solids (TS), and Volatile Solids (VS). Additionally, sludge loading, holding, and pressing were monitored throughout the study. The results provide insights into the efficacy of Qwik-Zyme D in improving solids reduction in aerobic digestion processes.

Introduction

The Columbus Wastewater Treatment Facility, located in Columbus, WI, is an extended aeration plant with two final clarifiers and tertiary treatment. The facility typically handles 0.7 to 0.9 million gallons per day (MGD), but during heavy rainfall, infiltration and inflow (I/I) can increase flows to as much as 5 MGD. The plant operates two aerobic digesters that feed into a belt filter press for sludge dewatering. This study focused on optimizing solids reduction in these aerobic digesters.

Methods

Sample Collection: A weekly composite sample was prepared by collecting approximately 200mL of sludge from each digester daily. Over five days, the daily samples from the North Digester were combined to create a 1000mL composite sample. The same process was followed for the South Digester, resulting in a 1000mL composite sample as well. These samples were picked up weekly and transported to the Aquafix, inc. lab.

Oxygen Uptake Rate (OUR): The Oxygen Uptake Rate was evaluated by transferring 20mL of the weekly aerobic sludge composite sample to a Biological Oxygen Demand (BOD) bottle. The bottle was then filled to its maximum volume (~300mL) with room temperature tap water. Dissolved oxygen (D.O.) was evaluated over the course of an hour with data collected every minute. Each sample was prepared and run in triplicate. The resulting slopes from the OUR runs were examined for outliers and then averaged to determine the final OUR values.

Total Solids (TS) and Volatile Solids (VS): Total solids were evaluated by first weighing an empty ceramic crucible. The crucible was filled approximately half full of sludge sample and the weight was recorded. The crucible containing the sludge was then dried in an oven at 105°C for a minimum of 24 hours. After cooling, the weight of the crucible and dried sludge sample was recorded. The weights were then used to calculate total solids in g/kg. Volatile solids were then determined by placing the crucibles with dried solids in a muffle furnace set to 550°C. After 90 minutes the crucibles were removed and allowed to cool, then weighed. The weights were then used to calculate % volatile solids and % fixed solids.

On Site Data Collection: Starting in Week 3 and continuing through the remainder of the 12-week study, the pounds of sludge loaded into the digesters, held in the digesters, and removed for dewatering/pressing were recorded. This data was recorded daily, and weekly averages were used for data interpretation.

Results

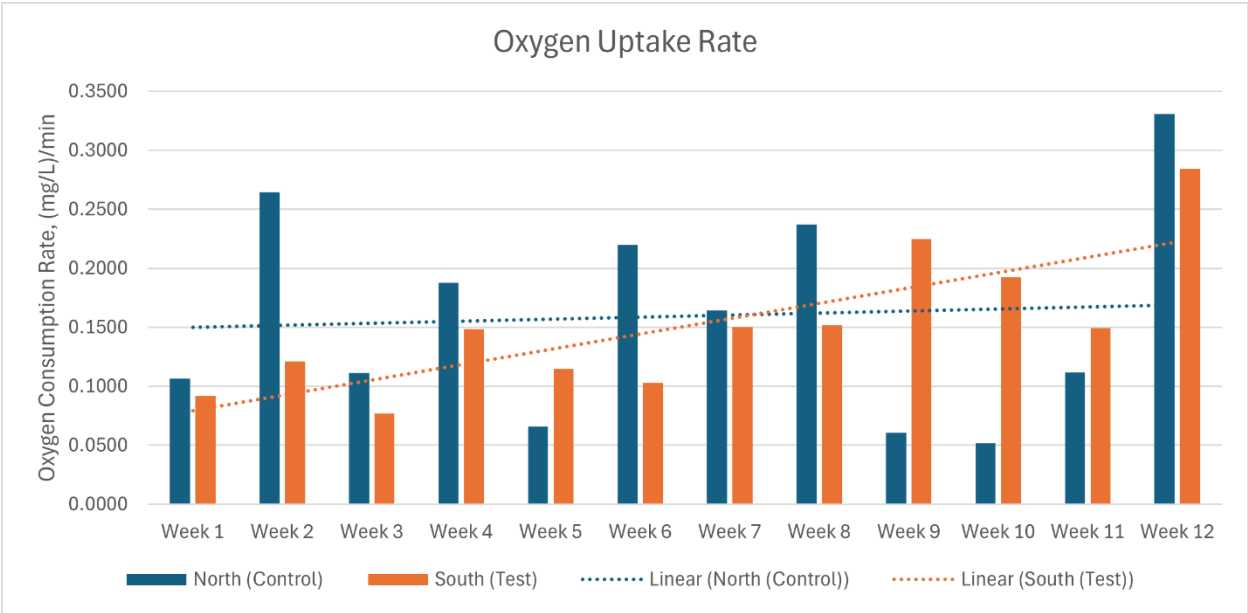


Figure 1: Average oxygen uptake rate of the triplicate runs for the North Digester and the South Digester throughout the 12-week study. While the trendlines show a gradual increase in uptake rate for the South Digester, the R² values (0.6291 for the South Digester and 0.0049 for the North Digester) do not suggest that the data is linear. The variability from week to week is relatively consistent between the two digesters. Overall, the data does not show a significant difference between the North Digester and the South Digester.

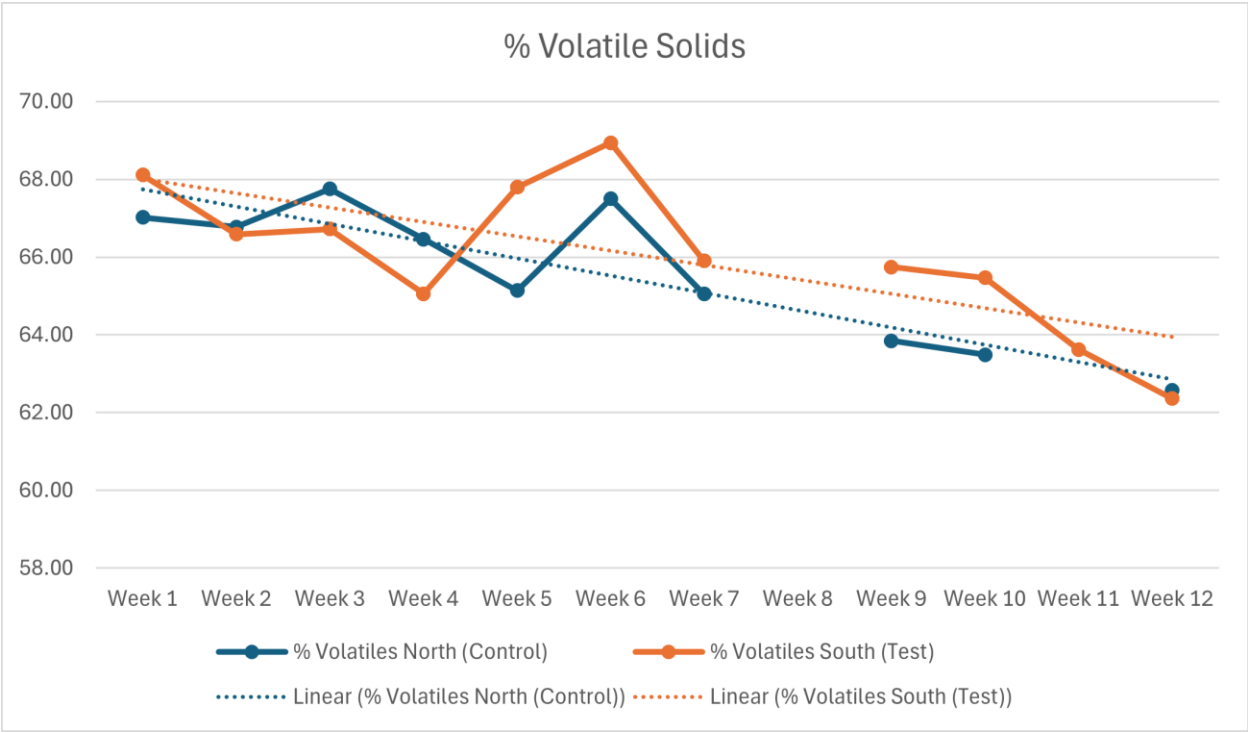


Figure 2: Both digesters showed volatile solids reduction over the course of the study. At the end of the study, the North Digester had a volatile solids concentration of 62.58% and the South Digester was at 62.36%. There was no significant difference in volatile solids between the two digesters. Week 8 VS data was lost due to human error and week 11 North Digester VS data was lost due to equipment failure.

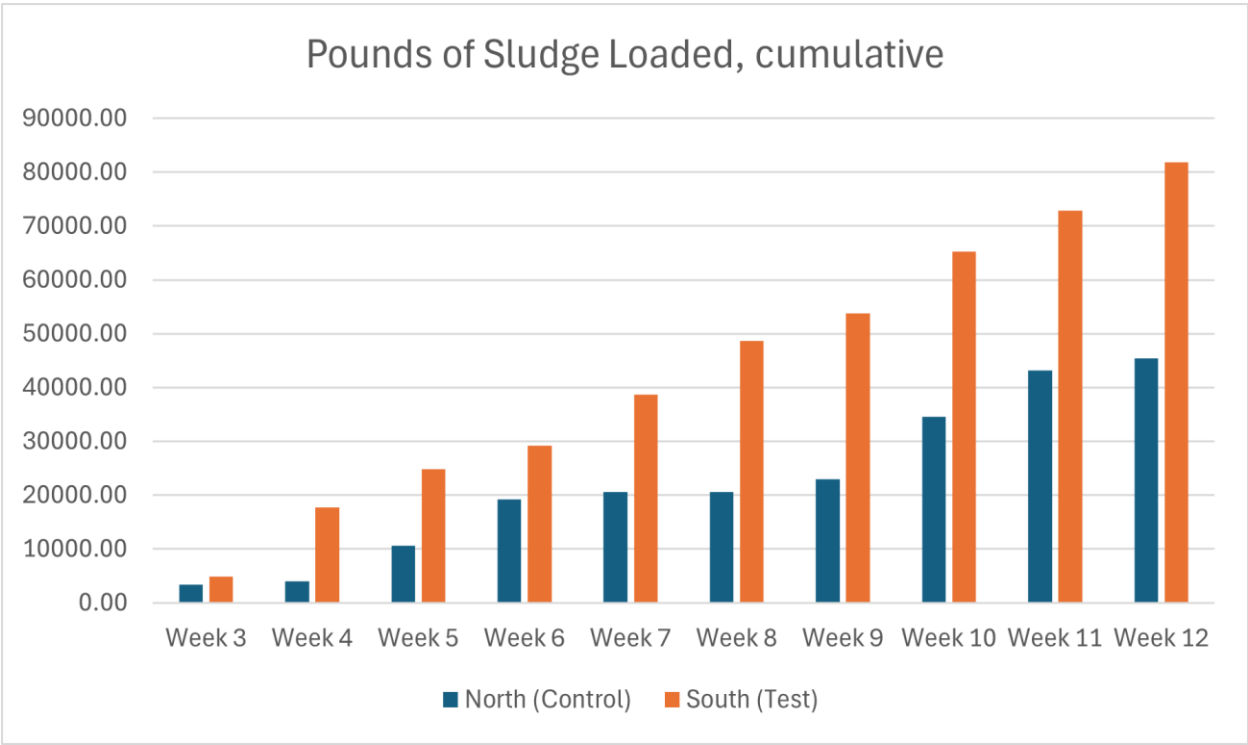


Figure 3: This figure depicts the week-to-week cumulation of loaded sludge in each digester. At week 12 a total of 45,382lb of sludge had been loaded into the North Digester, while a total of 81,848lb of sludge was loaded into the South Digester. Approximately 80% more sludge was added to the South Digester compared to the North Digester.

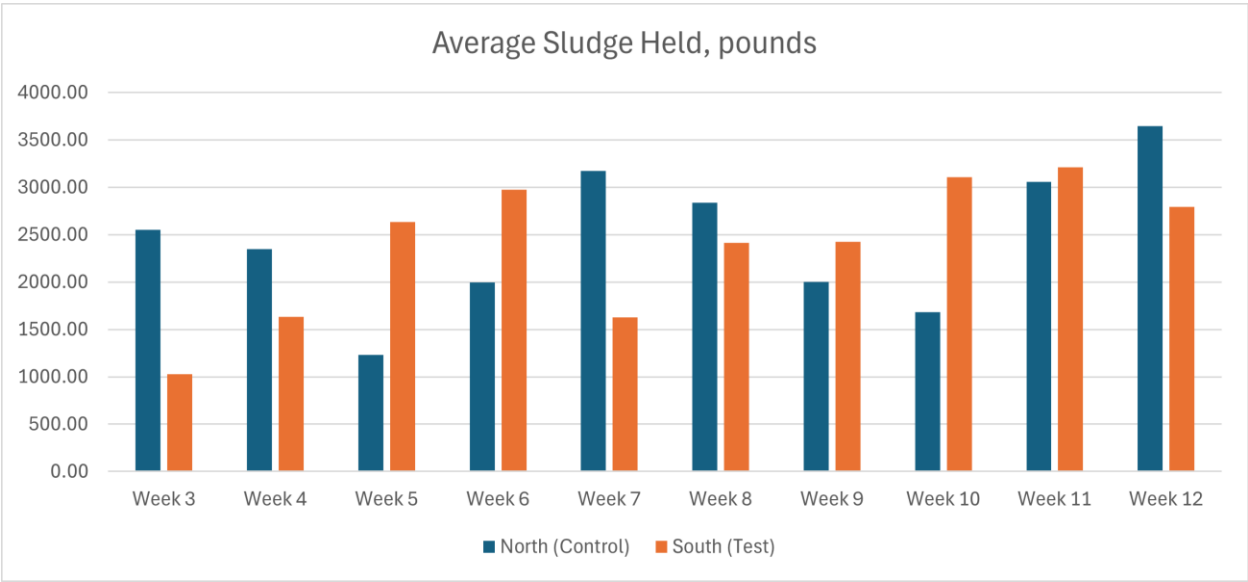


Figure 4: This figure depicts the week-to-week average of sludge held in each digester. The cumulative 12-week average of sludge held in the North and South Digesters were 2,451lb and 2,384lb, respectively. No significant difference was observed in the pounds of sludge held in the digesters despite the increased sludge loading into the South Digester.

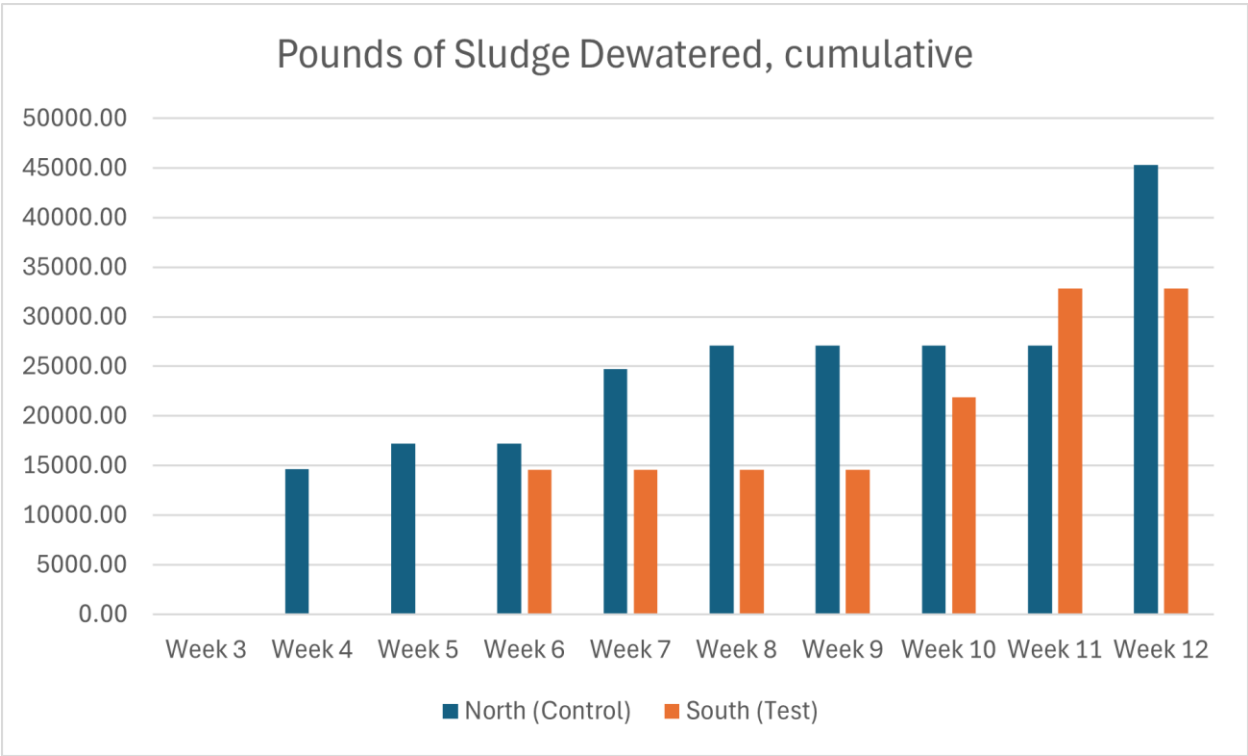


Figure 5: This figure shows the week-to-week cumulative total pounds of sludge removed via dewatering (belt pressing) in the North Digester and South Digester. At the end of the 12-week study a total of 45,302lb of sludge had been dewatered from the North Digester and a total of 32,863lb of sludge had been dewatered from the South Digester. Despite increased loading in the South Digester, and held solids remaining equivalent, more solids had to be removed and dewatered from the North Digester. No sludge was dewatered week 3 for both digesters, no sludge was dewatered from the basins on an as-needed basis based on inability to load more sludge.

The study found that while OUR (Figure 1) and VS percentages (Figure 2) remained similar between the North and South Digesters, the South Digester received 36,465 pounds more sludge than the North Digester (Figure 3). Additionally, while the sludge held in the digesters varied based on dewatering and loading cycles, the average pounds of sludge held between the digesters was not significantly different (Figure 4).

After 12 weeks, the total sludge loaded into each digester was compared to the total sludge removed via pressing/dewatering. Given that the sludge volumes were relatively comparable, this difference represents the amount of sludge reduced. The South Digester, treated with Qwik-Zyme D and subjected to operation changes, achieved a significant 59.85% reduction in sludge, equating to 48,984 pounds of sludge removed via biological activity. In contrast, the North Digester, which served as the control, saw only 0.18% reduction, amounting to approximately 80 pounds of sludge removed.

Conclusion

Although the OUR between the North and South Digesters showed no significant difference, it's important to note that the South Digester received nearly twice as much sludge over the 12-week test period. Despite this heavy loading, the metabolic health of the bacteria in the South Digester likely benefited from the addition of Qwik-Zyme D, which may have mitigated the expected negative impact of the heavy loading. Moreover, the South Digester achieved an impressive 59.85% reduction in sludge, suggesting that this significant decrease was likely due to the combined effects of operational changes and the addition of Qwik-Zyme D.

2024 AGENDA ITEM

Utility Commission Meeting Date: 9/19/2024

ITEM: Purchase of Electrical Switches for Hospital Expansion Project

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF SUBJECT MATTER:

Due to an extended lead time on the switches that are required for the completion of the Hospital Expansion Project the Electrical Utility would like permission to place the order for 3 switches totaling **\$69,800**. The project has been figured into the 2025 Budget and this expense will be accounted for.

LIST ALL SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION ATTACHED:

1. Quote for Hospital Switches

ACTION REQUESTED OF COMMISSION:

Discussion and Approval of Request

FP QUOTATION

SUBJECT: RFQ for City of Vanguard
FP Quotation #: 548732-R3
TOTAL NUMBER OF PAGES 2 (including this sheet)

THE FOLLOWING BILL OF MATERIAL CONSTITUTES OUR COMPLETE OFFERING; NO OTHER WRITTEN SPECIFICATIONS WILL APPLY.

<u>Item</u>	<u>Qty</u>	<u>Description</u>
1	1	<p>PSE-11-44312 15KV, 95KV BIL, Dead-front, Air Insulated, Padmounted Switchgear with three (3) 3-pole 600 amp group operated Auto-jet switches provided with dead-break 600 amp bushings (one (1) per phase) and one (1) 3-phase set(s) of fuse mountings for SMU-20 fuses provided with 200 amp bushing wells (one (1) per phase). Included are: 3- FP-3097 Fuse End Fittings 3 - SMU-20 Fuses (Amperage and Speed TBD) Pricing.....\$ 23,200.00 each</p>
2	3	<p>PSE-9-44222 15KV, 95KV BIL, Dead-front, Air Insulated, Padmounted Switchgear with two (2) 3-pole 600 amp group operated Auto-jet switches provided with dead-break 600 amp bushings (one (1) per phase) and two (2) 3-phase set(s) of fuse mountings for SMU-20 fuses provided with 200 amp bushing wells (one (1) per phase). Included are: 6 - FP-3097 Fuse End Fittings 6 - SMU-20 Fuses (Amperage and Speed TBD) Pricing.....\$ 23,300.00 each</p>

Net Adders (If Required):

1.	As Required:	<p>FP-3097 Fuse End Fittings (Spares) Price.....\$ 370.00 each</p>
2.	As Required:	<p>SMU-20 Fuse units (Spares) Price.....\$ 330.00 each</p>
3.	As Required:	<p>LBI215 Load Break Inserts (200 amp Compartments) Price.....\$ 60.00 each</p>

Notes:	1.	Fuse information (size & speed) must be available either at time of order entry or in time to receive the fuses at FP prior to padmount shipment. Otherwise, fuses must be shipped short and the freight charges for the fuse shipment will be prepaid and added to the invoice.
	2.	If the fuse data is not available as outlined above, steps can be taken to expedite the fuses by shipping via air from emergency stock, if available at time required, at a premium adder of 25% plus \$150.00 plus cost of air shipment.

Comments and Clarifications:

This quotation is based upon information supplied to the Factory, which may or may not have been complete. Customer is responsible for reviewing this quotation for compliance, deviations, exclusions, and improper information supplied. If you feel an error or omission has been made, please contact Factory immediately.

Elbows are not included as a part of our proposal.

This quotation is valid for 30 days. In the event you delay the Shipment Date for any reason, we reserve the right to revise the prices listed herein or revoke the quote in its entirety..

Payment Terms are NET 30 Days.

Normal shipments shall begin within approximately **43-45 weeks** after our acceptance of your formal purchase order so long as you have provided all technical details and data required to release the equipment for manufacture (the "Shipment Date"). If a better shipping schedule is required, please consult the Factory for review of our current manufacturing schedule. When drawing approval is required, the Shipment Date will be delayed by the time necessary for the drawing approval process. Approval drawings (if required) will be submitted within approximately **3-4 weeks** after our acceptance of an order. Hold for approval orders not released within **30 days** shall be reviewed and subject to price increases. The Shipment Date is subject to change at time of order release based on current production backlog.

Freight Terms

- (1) Freight will be EXW Factory with seller paying freight.**
- (2) The seller will determine the method of transportation and the routing of the shipment. Where the purchaser requires shipment by a method of transportation or routing other than that of the seller's selection, any additional transportation and/or packing expense is to be borne by the purchaser.**

All transactions are subject to EMC's Sales Terms and Conditions found at:

<https://www.electro-mechanical.com/sales-terms-and-conditions/>

Please contact your customer service representative if you are unable to access the site listed above.

2024 AGENDA ITEM

Utility Commission Meeting Date: 9/19/2024

ITEM: Capital Improvement Plan Discussion

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF SUBJECT MATTER:

Final overview of the Capital Improvement Plan that has been put together to move the Utilities Departments forward. There is still uncertainty due to future growth of the community as well as we “The Utility and City Administrators” need your input as to what direction you would like us to go.

LIST ALL SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION ATTACHED:

1. Utilities CIP

ACTION REQUESTED OF COMMISSION:

Discussion on CIP and Provide Direction Based on the Commissions Determination

Utilities	Year*	Purchase/Replacement	Cost	Notes	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034
Vehicles														
Water & Electric	'25-'30	Bobcat S66 Skidster	\$18,000	Rental replacement program	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Water & Electric	'25-'27	International HV Digger Truck	\$474,924	3 year loan purchase	\$165,324	\$154,800	\$154,800	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Water & Electric	'25-'27	Ford F350 Super Crew Utility Truck	\$81,815	3 year loan purchase	\$27,272	\$27,272	\$27,272	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Water & Electric	2025	Bobcat HB980 Hydraulic Breaker w/ Nail Point	\$13,300		\$13,300	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Water & Electric	2025	Bobcat E48 R2 Mini Excavator	\$79,998		\$79,998	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Water & Electric	'26-'29	Bobcat E48 R2 Mini Excavator	\$24,500	Rental replacement program	\$0	\$4,900	\$4,900	\$4,900	\$4,900	\$4,900	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Water & Electric	'26-'28	Ford F350 Truck	\$93,885	3 year loan purchase	\$0	\$31,295	\$31,295	\$31,295	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Water & Electric	'28-30	International HV Bucket Truck	\$375,000	3 year loan purchase	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$125,000	\$125,000	\$125,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Water & Electric	'29-30	International Dump Truck	\$280,000	2 year loan purchase	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$140,000	\$140,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Water & Electric	'25-29	Sale of Vehicles	(\$165,000)		(\$100,000)	(\$25,000)	\$0	(\$20,000)	(\$20,000)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Water & Electric	2025	Can Am Defender Full cab UTV	\$23,199	Water & Electric Shared UTV	\$23,199	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Water & Electric	2025	Repairs to Electric Utility Trailers	\$21,358	Pole Trailer & Reel Trailer Repair/Rep	\$21,358	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Wastewater	2025	Wastewater Hoist Truck*	\$57,000		\$57,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Wastewater	2025	Front End Loader Purchase Agreement	\$400,000	initial purchase - Possible Capital Proj	\$400,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Wastewater	'26-'30	Front End Loader Purchase Agreement	\$90,000	Rental replacement program	\$0	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000
Wastewater	2026	Wastewater Hoist Truck*	\$57,000		\$0	\$57,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Wastewater	2027	Wastewater Hoist Truck*	\$57,000		\$0	\$0	\$57,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Wastewater	2028	Wastewater Pickup	\$15,000		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$15,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Wastewater	2029	Wastewater Pickup	\$25,000		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$25,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Wastewater	2030	Wastewater Pickup	\$25,000		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$25,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Wastewater	2025	Sale of Chevy 2500 & 2010 Explorer	(\$12,500)		(\$12,500)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Wastewater	2026	Sale of Spreader Truck	(\$5,000)		\$0	(\$5,000)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Wastewater	2028	Sale of 2015 Ford F250	(\$10,000)		\$0	\$0	\$0	(\$10,000)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Vehicles		TOTAL	\$2,019,479		\$677,951	\$258,267	\$288,267	\$159,195	\$287,900	\$307,900	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000

Utilities	Year*	Purchase/Replacement	Cost	Notes	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034
Electric Utility														
	2025	Reconnect Padmount Step-down	\$10,000		\$10,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	2025	Complete 4.16kV Conversion	\$3,300,000		\$3,300,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	2025	Decommission Sub #1	\$10,000		\$10,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	2025	Sell Pad Mount Step-downs	(\$45,000)		(\$45,000)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	2026	Bury Circuit around Hospital	\$507,000		\$0	\$507,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	2027	Credit for Load Added	\$109,290		\$0	\$0	\$109,290	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	2027	Bury Balance of Circuit 403	\$495,000		\$0	\$0	\$495,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	2027	Burcy Circuit 301	\$700,000		\$0	\$0	\$700,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	2027	Sell 69kV line to ATC	\$0		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	2028	Construct a 304 to 205 tie circuit	\$1,640,000		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,640,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	2029	Increase Substation #2 Capacity	\$2,106,000		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$2,106,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	2025	Hospital Work Equipment Order	\$320,000		\$320,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	2025	Substation #2 SCADA Connection	\$10,000		\$10,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	2025	Pop Up Hub (Otter Clam Eskimo)	\$1,200	Used to work on electrical connector	\$1,200	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Electric Utility		TOTAL:	\$9,163,490		\$3,606,200	\$507,000	\$1,304,290	\$1,640,000	\$2,106,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Wastewater Collection System														
Pretreatment Program	2025	Comprehensive Study on FOG	\$100,000		\$100,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Pretreatment Program	2025	Sampling Equipment & Lab Fees	\$200,000	Equipment purchase & study/cleaning	\$200,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Pretreatment Program	'26-'30	Sampling Equipment & Lab Fees	\$100,000	annual lab fees - operating costs	\$0	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Collection System	'25-'30	Contracted Jetting/Televising/Repairs	\$750,000	20% per year ongoing annual operati	\$0	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Collection System	2025	Birdsey Lift Station (Control Panel)	\$75,000		\$75,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Collection System	'25-'30	Street Construction Projects	\$700,000		\$0	\$75,000	\$175,000	\$50,000	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Collection System	2026	Hughes Lift Station Forcemain Replacement	\$75,000		\$0	\$75,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Collection System	2027	West Side Lift Station	\$100,000		\$0	\$0	\$100,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Collection System	2028	Kiwanis Lift Station	\$170,000		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$170,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Collection System	2028	Transit Lift Station	\$60,000		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$60,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Collection System	2029	Commercial Lift Station	\$160,000		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$160,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Collection System	2030	Hughes Lift Station Replacement	\$190,000		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$190,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Wastewater Treatment Plant			\$2,680,000		\$375,000	\$320,000	\$445,000	\$450,000	\$530,000	\$560,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
WWTP - Influent	2026	Septage Receiving & Holding Tanks	\$2,000,000		\$0	\$2,000,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
WWTP - Process	2025	Chem Scan System & Phos Chemical Removal Upgr	\$100,000	Automated Phos Removal Controller	\$100,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
WWTP - Influent	2025	Bar Screen Level Sensors	\$20,000		\$20,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
WWTP - Influent	2025	Muffin Monster Rebuild & Replacement	\$120,000		\$120,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
WWTP - Influent	'25-'28	Rebuild of Influent Pump Flush Valves	\$24,000	4 year project	\$6,000	\$6,000	\$6,000	\$6,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
WWTP - Influent	2029	2nd Barscreen For Redundancy	\$900,000		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$900,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
WWTP - Influent	'25-'29	Primary Treatemtn/Head Works	\$97,000	partial replacement/repairs every 2 y	\$30,000	\$0	\$32,000	\$0	\$35,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
WWTP - Aeration	2025	Mixed Liquor Ditch Aeration	\$50,000		\$50,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
WWTP - Clarification	2026	Rebuild of Clarifier #1	\$1,500,000		\$0	\$1,500,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
WWTP - Solids Process	2026	Rebuild/Redesign of RAS Wetwell	\$850,000		\$0	\$850,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
WWTP - Clarification	2027	Rebuild of Clarifier #2	\$1,500,000		\$0	\$0	\$1,500,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
WWTP - Clarification	2025	Scum Pumps & Flanges	\$100,000		\$100,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
WWTP - Clarification	2028	Build of New Clarifier #3	\$4,000,000		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$4,000,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
WWTP - Filtration	2025	Rehab/Rebuild of Sand Filter System	\$450,000		\$450,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
WWTP - Effluent	2026	River Level Meter & Effluent Sampling System	\$120,000		\$0	\$120,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
WWTP - Disinfection	2029	Removing Chemical Disinfection	\$2,100,000	Install Ozone Disinfection* Very Roug	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$2,100,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
WWTP - Solids Process	2030	Sludge Management - Blowers & Piping	\$200,000		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$200,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
WWTP - Solids Process	2025	Dewatering Upgrades & Replacements	\$2,400,000		\$2,400,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
WWTP - Process	2025	Scada System	\$30,000		\$30,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
WWTP - Process	2026	CMMS - Asset Management System	\$125,000		\$0	\$125,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
WWTP - Buildings/Grounds	'25-'30	HVAC/PM/Repair Contract T & M	\$232,344	Maint Contract - annual operating co	\$39,036	\$37,404	\$37,404	\$39,500	\$39,500	\$39,500	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
WWTP - Process	2025	PLC/Fiber Installation Upgrade	\$175,000		\$175,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Wastewater Utility		TOTAL	\$17,093,344		\$3,520,036	\$4,638,404	\$1,575,404	\$4,045,500	\$3,074,500	\$239,500	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Utilities	Year*	Purchase/Replacement	Cost	Notes	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034
Water Utility														
Administration	2025	HydroCorp Cross-Connect Contract	\$11,760		\$11,760	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Administration	2026	HydroCorp Cross-Connect Contract	\$11,760		\$0	\$11,760	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Plant #2	2025	Plant #2 Dehumidifier	\$17,635		\$17,635	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Maintenance	2025	Trench Boxes	\$17,970	Can be used for all Utilities w/undergr	\$17,970	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Maintenance	2025	Kerf Cutter	\$3,500	used to cut pipe precisely	\$3,500	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Plant #1	2025	Plant #1 Electric Heater	\$7,998		\$7,998	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Safety PPE	2025	Rain Gear Water/Electric Dept	\$1,740	Carhart Jackets plus pants/bibs	\$1,740	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Maintenance	2025	Shop Sweeper	\$475	Used to Clean Shop	\$475	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Maintenance	2025	Snow Blower Two Stage	\$1,499		\$1,499	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Distribution System	2025	Water Tower Cleaning & Inspection	\$14,420	Clean Inspect and Touch Up Paint Wa	\$14,420	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Maintenance	2025	Water Meter Bench Testers	\$172,560	Used to test water meters for accurac	\$172,560	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Plant #2 Reliability	2025	Plant #2 Softener Reconditioning	\$298,906	Recondition the water softeners	\$298,906	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Plant #2 Reliability	2025	Plant #2 Softener Painting	\$135,651	Repaint Interior of Vessels	\$135,651	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Plant #2 Reliability	2026	Plant #2 Booster Pump Replacements	\$141,842	3 pumps to be replaced does not incl	\$0	\$141,842	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Plant #2 Reliability	2026	Plant #2 Booster Pump Piping	\$75,000	Estimate for retrofitting and new pipi	\$0	\$75,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Plant #2 Reliability	2026	Plant #2 Well Pump Replacement	\$118,290		\$0	\$118,290	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Plant #2 Reliability	2027	Plant #2 Piping Repaint	\$52,451	Repaint All piping	\$0	\$0	\$52,451	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Plant #2 Reliability	2025	Motor Control Center Replacement	\$283,379	MCC Electrical Buckets and Panel Rep	\$283,379	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Plant #2	2026	Iron Filter Automated Backwash	\$318,270	Plant #2	\$0	\$318,270	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Plant #2	2025	Bidding and Engineering of Backwash	\$66,950	Iron Filter Plant #2	\$66,950	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Plant #2	2025	Dehumidifier 1 of 4 Replacement	\$18,164	Plant #2	\$18,164	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Plant #2	2026	Dehumidifier 1 of 4 Replacement	\$18,709	Plant #2	\$0	\$18,709	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Plant #2	2027	Dehumidifier 1 of 4 Replacement	\$19,270	Plant #2	\$0	\$0	\$19,270	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Plant #2	2028	Dehumidifier 1 of 4 Replacement	\$19,848	Plant #2	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$19,848	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Plant #2	2034	Storage Rehabilitation Reservoir #2	\$268,783	Plant #2	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$268,783
Plant #2	2029	Storage Dive and Inspection Res #2	\$19,708	Plant #2	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$19,708	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Plant #2	2034	Well Rehabilitation Plant #2	\$74,117	Well #4	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$74,117
Future Plant	2025	Investigation and Site Selection	\$42,436	Future Water Plant	\$42,436	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Future Plant	2025	Land Acquisition	\$106,090	Future Water Plant	\$106,090	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Future Plant	2026	Design and Bidding	\$625,475	Future Water Plant	\$0	\$625,475	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Future Plant	2027	Water Main and Utilities	\$731,581	Future Water Plant	\$0	\$0	\$731,581	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Future Plant	2028	New Water Plant and Well	\$8,701,442	Future Water Plant	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$8,701,442	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Distribution System	2025	Storage Tank #2 Site Selection	\$515,000	Selection and Purchase Tower #2	\$515,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Distribution System	2026	Engineering - Design and Bidding	\$228,253	Tower #2	\$0	\$228,253	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Distribution System	2027	0.20MG Elevated Storage Tank	\$2,821,203	Tower #2	\$0	\$0	\$2,821,203	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Distribution System	2032	Power Wash Touch Up & Inspection	\$17,735	Tower #2	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$17,735	\$0	\$0
Distribution System	2030	Tower Drive Tower Repaint & Inspection	\$417,918	Tower Drive	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$417,918	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Distribution System	2028	east to existing 10-inch diameter water main just	\$747,760		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$747,760	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Distribution System	2029	Farnham St. to River Rd.	\$494,106		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$494,106	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Distribution System	2030	Western Ave. (approximately 800 feet of 12-inch	\$248,775		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$248,775	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Distribution System	2030	St, future right-of-way north of Fuller St. and	\$523,616		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$523,616	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Distribution System	2031	Fuller St and Park Ave. (approximately 2,500 feet	\$728,467	Lead Service Replacements	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$728,467	\$0	\$0	\$0
Distribution System		Annual Replacements	\$444,617	Street Replacement	\$50,000	\$51,500	\$53,045	\$54,636	\$56,275	\$57,964	\$59,703	\$61,494	\$0	\$0
Distribution System	2025	Brookside Street Recon	\$201,250	Street Replacement	\$201,250	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Distribution System	2026	West School Street Recon	\$625,000	Street Replacement	\$0	\$625,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Distribution System	2027	N. Dickason Recon	\$187,500	Street Replacement	\$0	\$0	\$187,500	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Distribution System	2030	Hibbard/Maple/Dix	\$935,000	Looping Project	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$935,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Distribution System	2027	Hospital Water Main Loop	\$568,750	Looping Project	\$0	\$0	\$568,750	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Distribution System	2028	USH 151 Loop	\$937,500	Looping Project	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$937,500	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Distribution System		Annual Hydrant Replacement	\$266,770	Public Safety	\$30,000	\$30,900	\$31,827	\$32,782	\$33,765	\$34,778	\$35,822	\$36,896	\$0	\$0
Distribution System	2027	Meadow Lane Water Extension	\$55,000	Looping Project	\$0	\$0	\$55,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Unknown	2025	Engineering - Design and Bidding	\$272,503	Plant #1 Rehab Undetermined	\$272,503	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Unknown	2026	Reconditioning per (2023 Memo)	\$2,888,083	Plant #1 Rehab Undetermined	\$0	\$2,888,083	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Unknown	2028	Well #2 Reconditioning (2023 Memo)	\$63,934	Plant #1 Rehab Undetermined	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$63,934	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Water Utility			TOTAL	\$26,586,419	\$2,269,886	\$5,133,082	\$4,520,627	\$10,557,902	\$603,854	\$2,218,051	\$823,992	\$116,125	\$0	\$342,900
UTILITIES COMBINED			ANNUAL GRAND TOTAL	\$57,542,732	\$10,449,073	\$10,856,753	\$8,133,588	\$16,852,597	\$6,602,254	\$3,325,451	\$833,992	\$126,125	\$10,000	\$352,900

LIVELines

Volume 73, Issue 9 • September 2024

MEUW hosting “District Dialogue” sessions to promote, encourage member networking

When MEUW asked members for feedback recently about the importance of the programs and services offered by the association, “providing opportunities for peer networking” and “educating members about emerging issues” scored high. The value derived from networking is the main driver behind MEUW organizing a series of roundtable meetings across the state in October.

One respondent to the most recent MEUW Member Engagement Survey (conducted in October 2023) wrote, “[It] doesn’t matter the size of the utility, the problems are shared by all and can be best solved by all.”

There are five “District Dialogue” meetings planned — each with the goal to get members together, provide updates about what’s happening, and take part in open discussions about topics important to them.

“From the very beginning 95 years ago, the purpose of MEUW has been to unify and strengthen municipal utilities,” said MEUW President and CEO Tim Heinrich, “A forum like the District Dialogue sessions will help our members learn from one another and bring back new ideas and information they can use for their utility and community.”

Each session will begin at 10 a.m. and wrap up after lunch by about 1:30 p.m. While the schedule for each meeting is the same, the content and format will be unique because the discussion topics are driven by the members who attend. MEUW plans to kickoff each session with a quick review of current legislative and regulatory updates and highlights of upcoming MEUW programs. In keeping with MEUW’s focus on advocacy, state legislators who represent each area are being invited to attend, as well.

The District Dialogue sessions, which are generously sponsored by [Utility Sales and Service](#), are scheduled for:

- Thurs., Oct. 3, in Richland Center,
- Tues., Oct. 15, in Shawano,
- Thurs., Oct. 17, in Rice Lake,
- Tues., Oct. 22, in Lake Mills, and
- Tues., Oct. 29, in Black River Falls.

All MEUW members are welcome. The sessions may be especially valuable for governing board members who don’t often have a chance to connect with their counterparts in other communities. While the meetings have been organized in locations that are central to MEUW’s districts, members are invited to attend in the location and on the date that works best for them.

Lunch will be provided. While there is no cost to attend, pre-registration is required. Full details are available [here](#). ●

Event sponsorship aims to highlight muni jobs

Municipal utility workers across the state — including more than 300 electric lineworkers — are familiar with the benefits that come with a job in public power. As workers age and unemployment rates remain at historic lows, more and more municipalities are facing the real challenge of recruiting and retaining qualified workers. As part of its mission, MEUW is focused on helping members address their workforce issues, including building a pipeline of talent that will sustain municipal utilities for the next generation.

In keeping with that focus, MEUW has signed up to sponsor an annual set of events that attract thousands of high-school student-athletes for a unique competition under the lights.

Since the first race in 2016 in Wisconsin Dells, the “Nightfall Classic”

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has grown to three events, with more than 125 high schools from throughout Wisconsin participating in nighttime cross-country races. Past participants and spectators talk about the fun and excitement of the unique event.



"We've been working on raising the profile of public power in recent years, and sponsoring

the Nightfall Classic gives us a chance to reach a new and important audience," according to MEUW President and CEO

Tim Heinrich. "The student-athletes running these races demonstrate the kind of commitment to hard work that municipal jobs require. With greater awareness, these teenagers are more likely to explore opportunities that allow them to begin a fulfilling career close to home."

Participants in each [Nightfall Classic](#) run a 5k across a golf course under the lights. This year's events take place on Sept. 13 (Neenah), Sept. 27 (Marshfield), and Oct. 4 (Lake Mills).

"With the races taking place in the Fox Valley and two other MEUW communities, and happening just before Public Power Week, putting MEUW's support behind the Nightfall Classic races is timely and a great way to promote public power and municipal careers," Heinrich added.

MEUW's sponsorship includes recognition on the event's website and on signage, including on runners' race bibs and on the photo backdrop at the finish line. A special [landing page](#) has been added to the MEUW website to highlight the benefits of working for a municipal utility and resources available through technical colleges across the state. ●

Members' *NEWS*



Bruce Gomm, General Manager of Shawano Municipal Utilities, has been elected to serve as Chair of Great Lakes Utilities, a joint-action agency providing power-supply services to municipal utilities in 11 Wisconsin communities, including Bangor, Clintonville, Cornell, Kiel, Manitowoc, Marshfield, Medford, Shawano, Stratford, Trempealeau, and Wisconsin Rapids.

Kristen Torgerson recently started as Utility Clerk at Westby Electric & Water Utility.

Jeremy Holschuh is joining River Falls Municipal Utilities this month as a Journeyman Lineworker.

Bloomer Electric Utility has hired **Kyle Rose** as its new Journeyman Lineman.

Send us your news! Tell MEUW about new hires, promotions, retirements, honors, and awards, so those tidbits can be shared in MEUW member communications. Simply send an email to news@meuw.org to share your news.



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LIVELines

Official monthly publication of **Municipal Electric Utilities of Wisconsin, Inc.**, the statewide trade association representing the interests of Wisconsin's public power providers since 1928.

This e-newsletter is distributed to more than 1,200 utility professionals and leaders throughout Wisconsin and the Midwest on the first Tuesday of every month.

LIVE LINES has been published continuously for many decades and provides useful information, news on emerging utility issues and legislation, updates on events, training programs and member services, as well as engaging feature stories spotlighting utilities, communities and leaders.

Reader comments and suggestions are welcome — send by email to news@meuw.org

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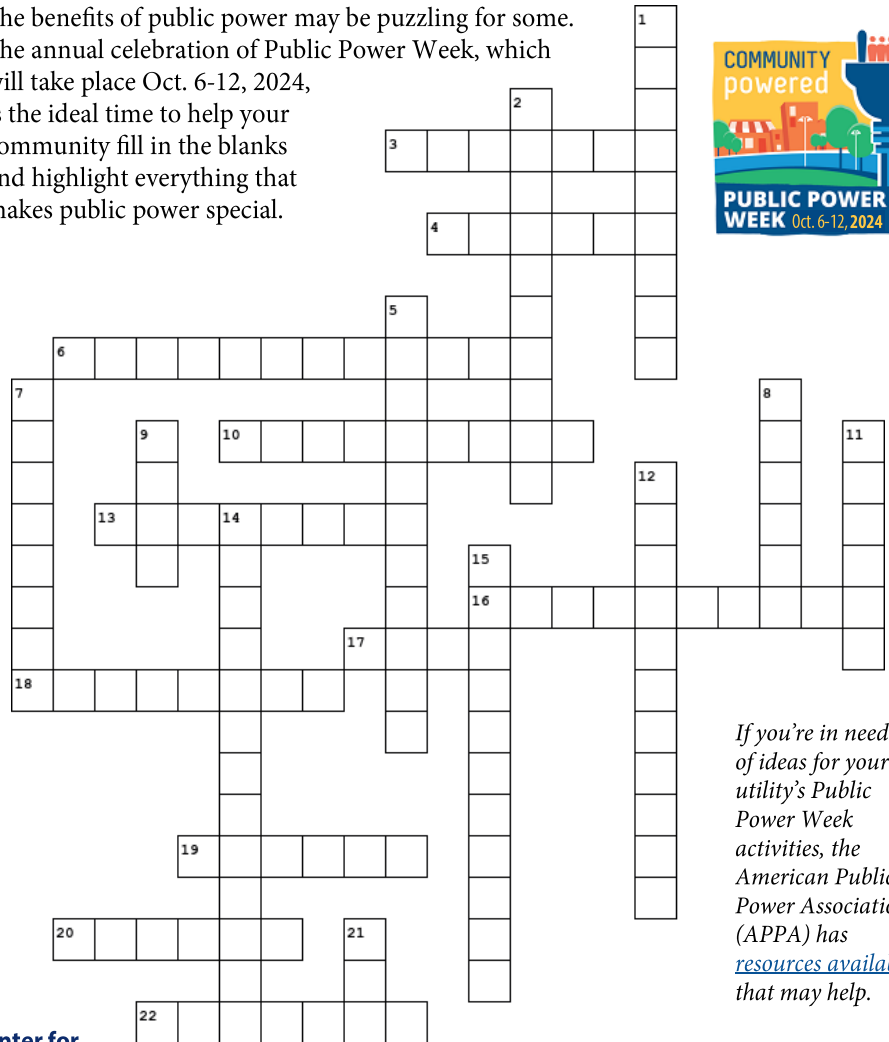
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An archive of past issues of *Live Lines* is available at www.issuu.com/meuw

Get ready to celebrate Public Power Week!

The benefits of public power may be puzzling for some. The annual celebration of Public Power Week, which will take place Oct. 6-12, 2024, is the ideal time to help your community fill in the blanks and highlight everything that makes public power special.



If you're in need of ideas for your utility's Public Power Week activities, the American Public Power Association (APPA) has [resources available](#) that may help.

Enter for a chance to win a \$50 Amazon gift card. Take a few minutes to complete the crossword puzzle and fill in your details below. Then scan this page and email it to info@meuw.org by 5 p.m. on Sept. 30.

Across

3. Site of "Public Power on Parade" event
4. _____ and collections
6. Governing board member
10. MEUW's monthly newsletter
13. Synonym exhilarating
16. MEUW headquarter city
17. Clark Kent's girlfriend; also MEUW roadway
18. Public support for a cause
19. Protected from danger, risk
20. Opposite private
22. MEUW Fundamentals course: utility accounting and _____

Down

1. Municipal Electric _____ of Wisconsin
2. Utility employee
5. Act of recovering debt
7. One of MEUW's "founding four" utilities
8. U.S. president elected in the year MEUW was formed
9. Summary of kilowatt-hour charges
11. Training exercise: _____ rescue
12. Wisconsin's first public power community
14. Act of working together; also topic of MEUW's leadership training program
15. American Public Power _____
21. Regulatory body

Your Name _____

Utility / Company Name _____

Daytime Phone Number _____

Only complete and correct puzzles received by the deadline are eligible for the prize drawing.

River Falls: A small community with big amenities

MEUW Community Spotlight

Located on the Kinnickinnic River in northwest Wisconsin, River Falls combines the charm of a small town with the vibrancy of a university community. River Falls is in both Pierce and St. Croix counties, and only

about 30 minutes from Minnesota's Twin Cities.

One of River Falls' many treasures is its hometown utility, River Falls Municipal Utilities (RFMU). The utility was established in 1900 and today provides electric, water, and wastewater services to about 16,000 residents and approximately 6,000 students at the University of Wisconsin-River Falls (UWRF) during the school year.

Kevin Westhuis, Utility Director for the City of River Falls, oversees all utility services, public works functions, plus the city's garbage and recycling programs.



Westhuis

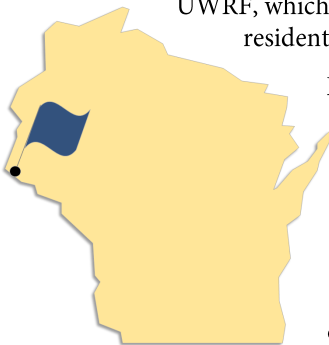
"We are privileged to provide essential utility services to the people of River Falls," Westhuis said. "We are arguably one of the last bastions of accessible and responsible government. We are accountable to the community, we live here, and we are here to serve." Westhuis, who has been with the utility for more than 11 years and clearly appreciates the value of humor added, "I guess I couldn't hide even if I wanted to, the people of River Falls know me ... and always seem to know right where to find me."

RFMU serves a growing area

According to U.S. Census data, the River Falls' population increased by about 32.2% from 2000 to 2022. It's easy to see why.

"River Falls is the next ring of the Twin Cities metropolitan area, 24 miles from St. Paul, 37 miles from an international airport, and close to all big city amenities," Westhuis said. It also sits on the Kinnickinnic River or the "Kinni," as it is fondly known to locals. The Kinni is a 22-mile world-class trout stream, and an ideal spot for fishing, kayaking, and other outdoor recreation. River Falls is also home to its namesake

UWRF, which helps to attract new businesses, residents, and cultural experiences.



RFMU, which is a member of WPPI Energy, currently serves about 7,500 electric customers — 89 percent are residential, and 11 percent are commercial customers.

UWRF accounts for about 10 percent of the electric utility's load.

While hosting a university — the utility's largest customer — plays a significant role in the local economy, River Falls is also home to many diverse businesses, including Best Maid Cookie Co. (Rise Bakery), Minnesota Rubber and Plastics, Crystal Finishing Systems, and Tattersall Distilling, an award-winning distillery that began in Minneapolis and now has a bar, restaurant, and event space in town. Other large customers include the River Falls School District and Hospital.



The Kinnickinnic River flows through the City of River Falls and is a popular recreation and natural area in western Wisconsin. The 22-mile, spring-fed river is a world-class trout stream with over 8,000 trout per mile in some stretches.

Westhuis leads a staff of more than 30, including Electric Superintendent Wayne Siverling, six electric journeyman, one electric journeyman apprentice, and a meter technician.

Recent electric utility projects include extending electric line into a 230-acre corporate park, Mann Valley, as well as implementing a cable replacement program. RFMU also recently upgraded its outage management system and converted all electric meters to those with advanced metering infrastructure.

Communication is key

RFMU benefits from having a talented team with a low turnover rate. Westhuis says RFMU's work culture is built around several things: "First, we want people who want to be here, people who want to put on the uniform and represent RFMU," he said, while also noting how important it is for employees to find significance in and take ownership of what they do. "If we are upgrading systems, I want our team members to feel the ownership in the project and to take pride in seeing what they've done."

Westhuis also stresses the importance of exceptional customer service. "I always tell our team to treat every customer as if they will have a choice in their utility provider, and we want them to choose us."

Westhuis' favorite way to communicate with customers is with video. He uses clear messaging, relatable content, and sometimes

Continued on page 5



The River Falls Municipal Utilities and Public Works team

Continued from page 4

humor to make complex topics interesting for customers.

RFMU's [Facebook page](#) features many of his videos explaining what's happening at the utility. For example, in one [video](#), Westhuis warns customers they may see workers out and about inspecting wooden poles. "It's important to go on offense, so you don't have to play defense," Westhuis said. "I like to calm things down before hearing a lot of noise about what's happening around town."

Westhuis clearly knows social media ... and sports analogies! In addition to his position with RFMU, he is also the founder of River Falls Sports Broadcasting, a platform dedicated to covering and live streaming high school athletics and youth sports. He now works with more than 20 volunteers to create content for the River Falls Sports YouTube channel, which has more than 5,000 subscribers.

"Video is a powerful tool," Westhuis said. "I encourage all municipal utilities to try it and practice it. Speak from the heart and talk honestly to your customers. I don't script anything; I give a sincere message ... and then sprinkle in a little something surprising or humorous."

A strong commitment to renewable energy

RFMU has a strong commitment to renewable energy and sustainability. In 2015, RFMU partnered with New Richmond to build the state's first city-owned solar garden, which includes about 800 solar panels. And the 254-kilowatt solar

array is just one part of the city's clean energy mix. It also uses hydroelectric power.

The utility used to have two hydroelectric dams on the Kinnickinnic River, but one was recently decommissioned. It was originally slated to close by 2026, but the timeline moved up when the dam sustained significant damage from flooding in 2021.

"The dam needs to be removed for environmental reasons, as it raises water temperatures, which negatively impacted the local trout population. It's part of an effort to restore the Kinnickinnic River and improve its ecosystem," Westhuis said.

By removing the dam from federal jurisdiction, the city became eligible for state funding to assist with the demolition.

RFMU also has implemented programs to increase awareness about reducing carbon emissions, including the Renewable River Falls Campaign. As part of the program, in January 2020, the City of River Falls became the first municipality in Wisconsin to power most city buildings — including city hall, the library, the public works garage, and the wastewater treatment plant — using 100 percent renewable energy.

Awarded for operational excellence

Last year, RFMU was honored with the American Public Power Association's (APPA) Safety Award of Excellence for their outstanding safety practices. It was

also recognized with the Reliable Public Power Provider (RP3) Gold Designation in April 2024, which acknowledges utilities that demonstrate high proficiency in reliability, safety, workforce development, and system improvement.

Its renewable energy efforts have also been recognized on a national level. "It's certainly nice for our crews and our work to be validated," Westhuis said. "But awards probably don't mean a lot to our community. They just want reliability, efficiency, and environmental responsibility, which are our main goals."

And the community partners with RMFU to increase operational excellence, especially in its efforts to increase renewable power. "We ask them for help, and they have responded by purchasing green blocks (300 kilowatt hours of renewable energy)," Westhuis said.

River Falls residents have been voluntarily purchasing green blocks since 2004 with a Utility Green Pricing Participation Rate of 14.8 percent in 2022, which is second in the nation.

"When individual customers voluntarily help make us 'greener,' it's really powerful," said Westhuis.

A thriving community

"I feel fortunate to live and work in River Falls," Westhuis said. "I appreciate the proximity to the Twin Cities and enjoy the many educational and fun opportunities right at home in River Falls."

The biggest event of the year is River Falls Days, a weekend in July when locals come together to enjoy a parade, food, live music, and fireworks.

September brings more festivals, including Art on the Kinni (Sept. 7), which features local artists and music. The weekend of Sept. 27-28 is Bacon Bash, where River Falls celebrates all things bacon!

"Come visit," Westhuis said. "River Falls a beautiful, safe town filled with authentic and friendly people. I am grateful to be a part of it all." ●



MEUW NEWS Monitor

Accounting and Customer

Service seminar agenda set: This annual seminar brings together municipal electric utility staff to share updates on regulatory and legislative issues that affect their utilities and provide best practices to improve their operations. Join members from utilities across the state in Mauston on Sept. 25 to learn and network, and discuss best practices and timely topics. Agenda items include updates from the Public Service Commission, grant writing, landlord communications, records retention and audit requirements, and techniques to effectively de-escalate tense customer interactions. Registration information is [here](#).

October stored energy and chainsaw safety workshops

offered: Learn how to safely work with and around stored energy in trees through this workshop. This workshop will cover how to recognize stored energy, and how to control and mitigate it when working at trees with chainsaws. Choose between two locations and dates: Wednesday, Oct. 2 in [Black River Falls](#), or Thursday, Oct. 3 in [Prairie du Sac](#). Registration is open now.

Brush-up on your HR and employment-law knowledge:

Recruiting, training, ensuring compensation and benefits, and employee engagement while complying with ever-changing federal, state and local employment laws is a lot to handle and keep track of. This one-day session (on Tuesday, Oct. 1) is a valuable refresher for HR issues, as well as providing guidance to comply with evolving employment laws. The workshop will be led by experts from the Boardman Clark law firm. Full details and registration information are available [here](#).

Next class in Fundamentals of Utility Management series to be offered Oct. 9:

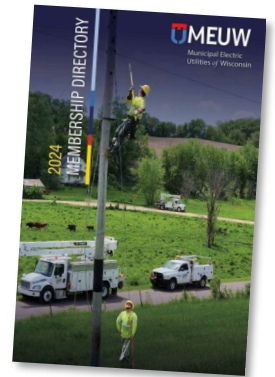
Understanding the various financial aspects associated with utility operations is essential for anyone in a management position. The next course in our four-part Fundamentals of Utility Management Training Series, Utility Accounting & Finance, will provide attendees the fundamentals of public utility accounting, a clear understanding of business operations, and how to review and effectively manage budgets. Register [here](#) today.

Leadership class focused on collaboration set for Dec. 4:

Collaborating is much more than just working with people — it also involves using influence and persuasion to drive high-performing teams. Leaders skilled in collaboration understand how individuals impact one another and how to foster creative thinking and effective problem-solving to drive results. This one-day class, part of our three-part Municipal Utility Leadership Certificate series, will give attendees practical ideas and skills they can bring back to their workplace. More information and registration are available [here](#).

Updated Directories will be sent soon:

Watch the mail for your copy of the 2024 MEUW Membership Directory. Each Member utility and Associate Member company will receive one printed copy of the directory later this month. It will also be available online through a link on MEUW's website.



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Focus on Energy is making it easier to find energy rebates

When U.S. Secretary of Energy Jennifer Granholm visited Milwaukee in early August, she announced that Wisconsin was the first state in the nation to launch the Home Efficiency (HOMES) portion of the federal Inflation Reduction Act's Home Energy Rebates program. The visit marked another opportunity for Wisconsin residents to access financial assistance for energy-saving upgrades to their homes.

Focus on Energy has been providing rebates and financial incentives to homeowners and other utility customers for more than two decades. As the state's implementer of the federal Home Energy Rebates, Focus on Energy's assistance to Wisconsin's residents, especially lower- and moderate-income families, will greatly increase. Many lower-income households can be helped by the state's longstanding weatherization assistance program, which pays for energy efficiency improvements. Federal tax credits for energy efficiency and clean energy equipment have been around in some form since the Energy Policy Act of 2005. These tax credits have been extended and expanded by the Inflation Reduction Act to include higher limits and more qualifying equipment.

While the financial resources available for home energy improvements are expansive, figuring out exactly what is available and how to get them can be daunting. Focus has made it easier to find what technologies and rebates are the best fit for a Wisconsin resident who qualifies. A simple click on the "Get Started" button on the Focus on Energy website's home page (focusonenergy.com) will direct utility customers to the Residential Rebate Finder tool. After answering a few simple questions, the tool will generate a customized list of the potential Focus on Energy Rebates, IRA Home Energy Rebates, federal tax credits, and other resources available.

Continued on page 8



Voter turnout in Wisconsin's Aug. 13 primary election topped 26 percent — the highest turnout during a presidential election year in 60 years. One reason: A second round of redistricting that was ordered by the Wisconsin State Supreme Court at the end of 2023. The new maps passed by the legislature and signed into law by Gov. Tony Evers meant a number of incumbent Republican legislators were forced into primary campaigns against one another. It also created a number of new, open districts without an incumbent. Another 18 incumbent legislators (particularly Assembly Republicans) had primary challengers, which also contributed to higher voter turnout.

The August primary seems to prove that incumbency has its advantages. All 18 incumbent legislators with primary challengers advanced to the general election. The only exception was a race where an incumbent Senator, who had been drawn out of his Senate district, defeated the incumbent Assembly representative.

Looking ahead to Nov. 5, Wisconsin will continue to be a battleground up and down the ticket. According to the latest polling, Wisconsin continues to be a toss-up for the presidential contest and has a U.S. Senate race that could swing party control at the federal level. Inside the state, redistricting will most certainly narrow the Republicans' current majorities in the State Senate and Assembly.

The upcoming election means there will be many new faces in the state legislature next session. That makes MEUW's advocacy and sharing the public power story even more important in the new year. The next "MEUW Day at the Capitol" is planned for Wednesday, Feb. 5, 2025, in Madison. Mark your calendars and watch for complete details in future communications.

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LIVELines Classifieds

MEUW is pleased to promote job openings with its member utilities across Wisconsin. New positions are regularly added to our website — check them out [here](#).

Here is a list of current openings listed on the website:

Village of New Glarus — [Public Works Director](#)

Spooner Municipal Utilities — [Lineman](#)

Sauk City Utilities — [Journey-Level Electric Lineworker or Apprentice](#)

Northeast Wisconsin Technical College — [Part-time Substation Apprentice Instructor](#)

Waunakee Utilities — [Electric Superintendent](#)

A career in public power may be the right fit for you or someone you know. MEUW offers resources to help learn more — start by reviewing [this flier](#).

When your utility is hiring, be sure to email the job posting to office@meuw.org.



Municipal utility leaders gather to talk strategy

Representatives of utility members joined the MEUW Board of Directors in Mauston on Aug. 27 to brainstorm ideas and review the association's current long-range strategic plan. The daylong meeting was designed as a comprehensive review of the strategic initiatives that had been adopted in 2019. Discussions focused on a number of ongoing priorities and the resources that are needed to address them. Participants commented about the high degree of cohesion among MEUW members about each of the priorities. Additional details about the refined strategy will be shared through future communications.


Continued from page 7

When using the rebate finder tool, a residential customer of Cuba City Light & Water, for example, with a household of four and income of \$65,000 will see that they could be eligible for bill payment and weatherization assistance from the State, higher rebates for heating and cooling equipment and insulation and air sealing from Focus, up to \$10,000 from the IRA HOMES program, or tax credits to reduce the cost of home energy improvement projects, such as replacing windows and doors.

The customized list describes the type of resource available — rebate, tax credit, instant discount — and the source of the funding, whether it's the state or federal government, or Focus on Energy. A brief description of the resource and link to get more information is also included.

Utilities are encouraged to advise customers to use the Focus on Energy Residential Rebate Finder tool as a first step on their energy saving journey. ●

MEUW provides Focus on Energy the opportunity to regularly contribute content to LIVE LINES because of the organizations' shared support of municipal utilities.



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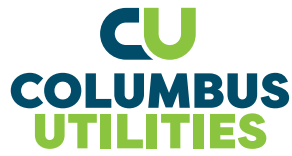
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Item #12.

LOOK INSIDE

TO SEE YOUR CUSTOMIZED
MID-YEAR HOME ENERGY REPORT

FOR MORE INFO, VISIT
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MID-YEAR UPDATE HOME ENERGY REPORT

WE ARE YOUR LOCALLY OWNED UTILITY committed to providing safe, reliable, and responsible service to homes and businesses in Columbus.

Enclosed, you'll find your personalized Mid-Year Home Energy Report – an insightful overview detailing how your 2024 electric and water consumption compares to similar-sized homes in our vibrant community. This report serves as a resource for understanding and managing your energy costs throughout the year.

Please visit our website or reach out to us directly for more information on available energy management programs for your home.



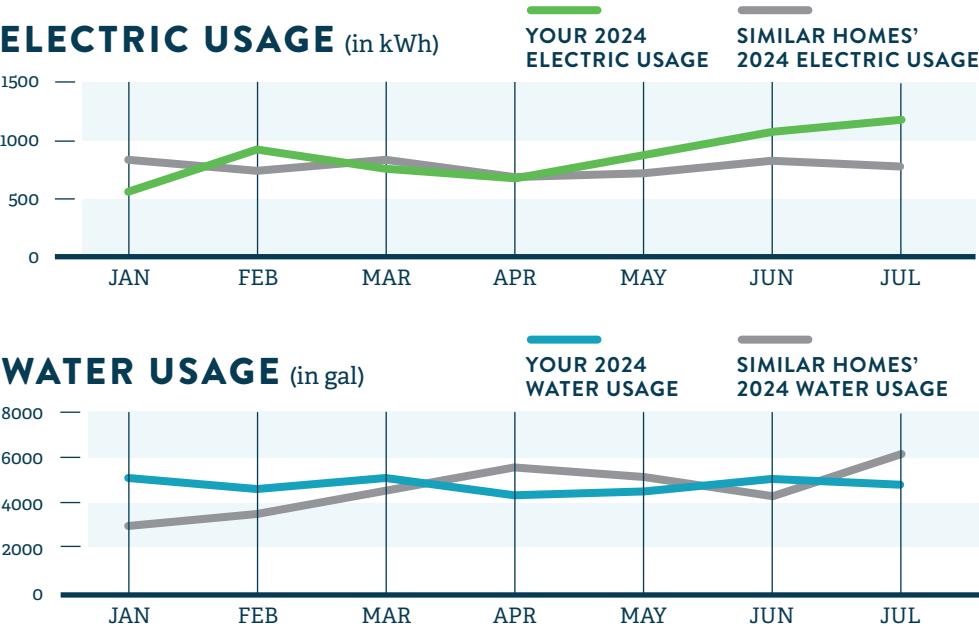
STAY PLUGGED INTO YOUR USAGE YEAR-ROUND.

Easily manage your energy and water use with MyAccount.

- Access usage data across all your devices.
- Set personalized alerts for energy and water usage.
- Receive convenient weekly usage summaries in your email inbox.
- Securely pay your bill online or sign up for AutoPay.

HOW DOES YOUR USAGE COMPARE?

See how your usage compares to similar-sized homes in Columbus.



The data provided in the graphs is extracted from our billing system. To compare your usage with similar-sized homes, we utilized publicly available data supplied by the community assessor's office.

AVERAGE JANUARY – JULY USAGE IN COLUMBUS

Home Size (sq ft)	<1,000	1,001-1,250	1,251-1,500	1,501-1,750	1,751-2,000	>2,000
Electricity (kWh)	X	X	X	X	X	X
Water (gal)	X	X	X	X	X	X

JANUARY – JULY 2024 TOTALS

Your Electricity Usage

XXX kWh

\$ X.XX
cost per day

Your Water Usage

XXX gal

\$ X.XX
cost per day

TAKE ACTION TO SAVE



IF YOU ARE LOWER
THAN AVERAGE...
KEEP IT UP!



IF YOU ARE
HIGHER THAN
AVERAGE...
CHECK OUT
THESE ACTIONS:

	Electricity	Water
No Cost	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Turn off devices and lights when not in use.Increase thermostat setting during the summer months.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Run dishwasher and washing machines with full loads.Collect rainwater for watering plants.
Low Cost	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Install a smart or programmable thermostat.Switch to LED lightbulbs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Install low-flow water fixtures.Install faucet aerators.
Higher Investment	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Choose energy-efficient appliances.Upgrade to high-efficiency heating and cooling systems.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Replace old plumbing fixtures with water-efficient models.Invest in an outdoor watering timer.

UNDERSTANDING YOUR INDIVIDUAL REPORT

Margin of Error

Located directly under your utility name, shows the margin of error, which is the degree of sampling error in your survey results.

In the top right corner, find details about the surveys conducted in your community:

Testville Utilities — n=XXX

(the number of surveys completed in your community)

Community Size Category — n=XXX

Member utilities were categorized into three segments based on the size of the community they serve: under 2,000, between 2,000 and 5,000, and over 5,000 residents. This section indicates your community's size category and the total number of customers contacted in your area to participate in the survey.

All Participating WPPI Utilities – n = 8,252

Total number of surveys collected from customers across WPPI membership.

Satisfaction Results

Explore your utility's results in Overall Satisfaction, Value of Services, and Net Promoter Score (Likelihood to Recommend).

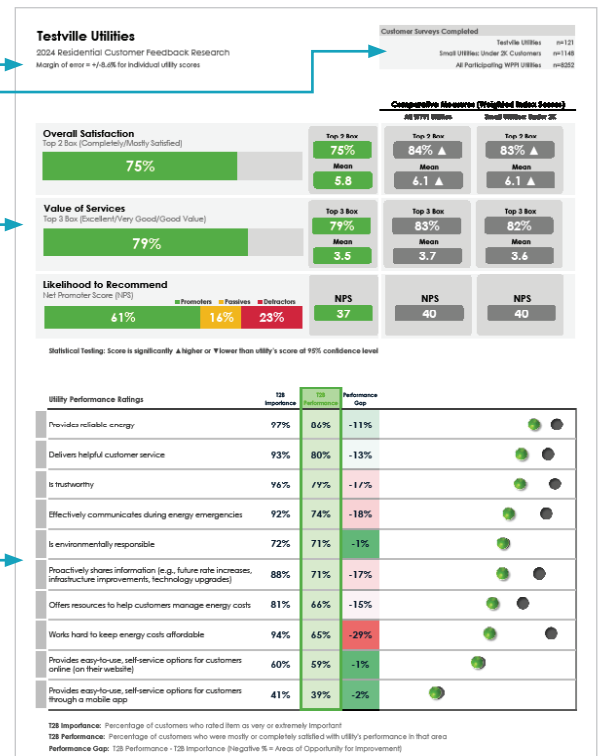
Compare your scores against all WPPI member utilities and others in your community size category.

Utility Performance Ratings

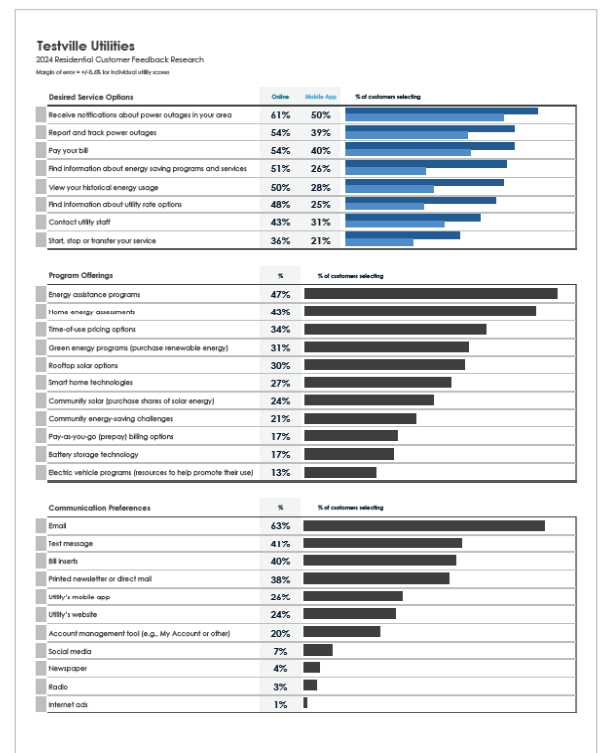
This is the results from the Gap Analysis conducted in your utility's survey. See how your customers value certain attributes and their satisfaction with your utility's performance.

The Performance Gap is the difference between importance and satisfaction, with larger gaps highlighted in red.

FRONT



BACK



The back of your individual report includes additional insights such as Desired Service Options, Program Offerings, and Communication Preferences.

Margin of Error: Degree of sampling error in survey results.

- A lower margin of error indicates higher confidence in the results.
- More responses lead to a lower margin of error.

Rating Scales

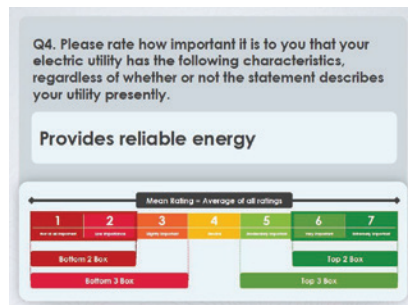
- Throughout the survey, respondents were asked to rate the level of importance and satisfaction with their utility using 7-point labeled Likert scales.
- Value was assessed using a 5-point Likert scale.
- Loyalty was measure using the traditional 0-10 Net Promoter Scale.

Top 2 Box(T2B)/Bottom 2 Box (B2B)

- For satisfaction and importance measures, results are displayed using Top 2 Box scores to focus on identifying those giving high ratings (mostly or completely satisfied, very or extremely importance) or very low ratings (B2B).

Top 3 Box (T3B)

- Value measures are displayed using Top 3 Box scores (good, very good, or excellent value).

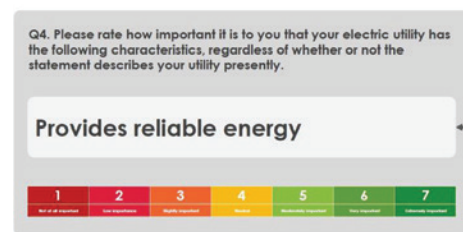


Gap Analysis

- A gap analysis can help utilities understand if their customers are satisfied with their performance in areas customers consider to be important.
- This analysis quantifies the difference between customer satisfaction and the importance on specific attributes.
- Areas with the largest negative gaps should be prioritized for improvement, as they require the most attention and resources.

Importance to Customers

Customer were asked to rate 11 attributes for importance.



Importance Attributes
Works hard to keep energy costs affordable
Provides reliable energy
Is environmentally responsible
Delivers helpful (customer/member) service
Is trustworthy
Effectively communicates during energy emergencies
Proactively shares information (e.g., future rate increases, infrastructure improvements, technology upgrades)
Offers resources to help (customer/member) manage energy costs
Provides easy-to-use, self-service options for (customer/member) online (on their website)
Provides easy-to-use, self-service options for (customer/member) through a mobile app
Is locally owned

Satisfaction with Utility Performance

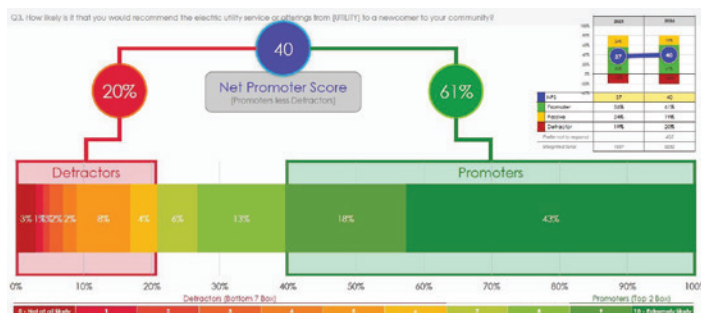
Customers were later asked to rate their satisfaction with their utility's performance in 10 of the 11 areas list attributes except 'locally owned'.



Performance Attributes
Working hard to keep energy costs affordable
Providing reliable energy
Being environmentally responsible
Delivering helpful (customer/member) service
Being trustworthy
Effectively communicating during energy emergencies
Proactively sharing information (e.g., future rate increases, infrastructure improvements, technology upgrades)
Offering resources to help (customer/member) manage energy costs
Providing easy-to-use, self-service options for (customer/member) online (on their website)
Providing easy-to-use, self-service options for (customer/member) through a mobile app

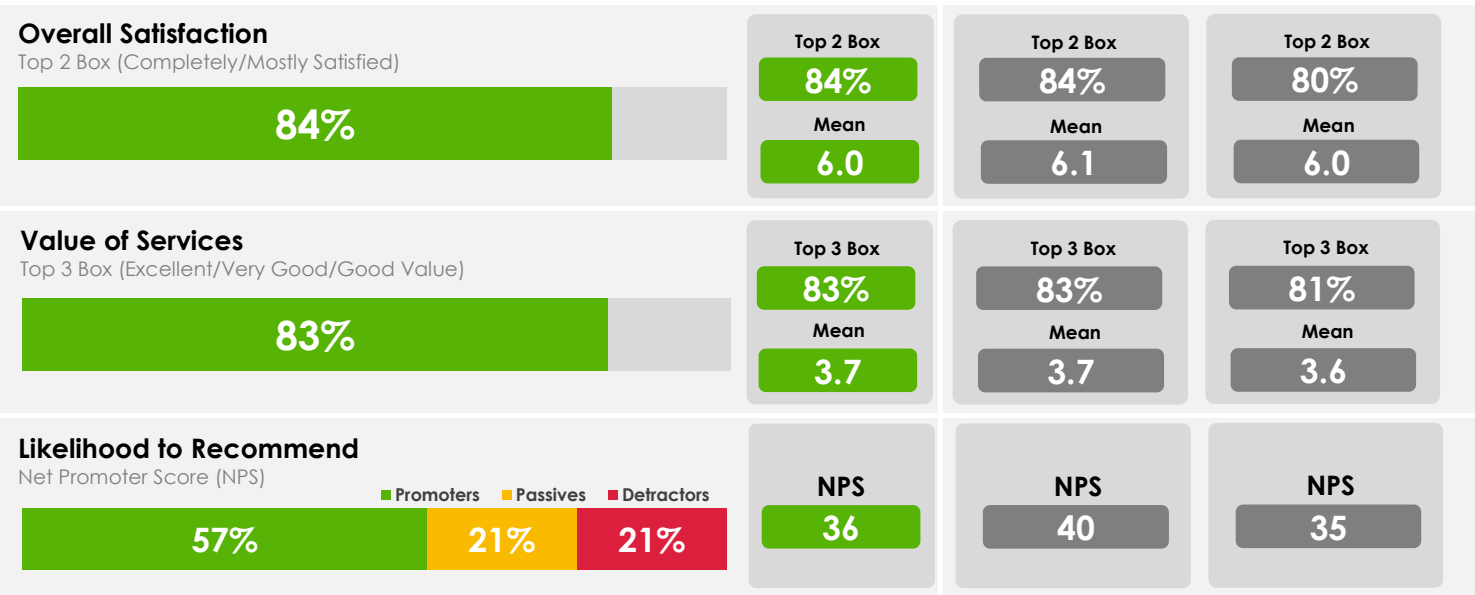
Net Promoter Score/Likelihood to Recommend

- Net Promoter Score (NPS) measures customer loyalty and satisfaction by asking how likely customers are to recommend a company to others on a scale of 0-10. The score is calculated by subtracting the percentage of detractors (scores 0-6) from the percentage of promoters (scores 9-10). The result ranges from -100 to +100, with higher scores indicating better customer satisfaction. Customers are categorized as promoters, passives, or detractors based on their responses.



Q5. Now, please rate your satisfaction with the performance of [UTILITY] in the following areas. How satisfied are you with [UTILITY] for ...				
Sorted in descending Gap Score order	Total Sample			Gap Score
	Importance: Top 2 Box	Performance: Top 2 Box		
Working hard to keep energy costs affordable	95%	64%	-31% ▼	
Effectively communicating during energy emergencies	93%	72%	-21% ▼	
Delivering helpful (customer/member) service	91%	77%	-14% ▼	
Proactively sharing information (e.g., future rate increases, infrastructure improvements, technology upgrades)	85%	71%	-14% ▼	
Being trustworthy	94%	81%	-13% ▼	
Offering resources to help (customer/member) manage energy costs	73%	64%	-9% ▼	
Providing reliable energy	97%	89%	-8% ▼	
Being environmentally responsible	74%	68%	-6% ▼	
Providing easy-to-use, self-service options for (customer/member) online (on their website)	72%	68%	-4% ▼	
Providing easy-to-use, self-service options for (customer/member) through a mobile app	45%	47%	2%	

Comparative Measures (Weighted Index Scores)



Likelihood to Recommend

Net Promoter Score (NPS)

Promoters

Passives

Detractors

57%

21%

21%

NPS

36

All WPPI Utilities

Medium Utilities: 2K - 5K

Top 2 Box

84%

Mean

6.1

Top 2 Box

80%

Mean

6.0

Top 3 Box

83%

Mean

3.7

Top 3 Box

81%

Mean

3.6

NPS

40

NPS

35

Statistical Testing: Score is significantly ▲ higher or ▼ lower than utility's score at 95% confidence level

Utility Performance Ratings	T2B Importance	T2B Performance	Performance Gap	
Provides reliable energy	98%	88%	-10%	<div><div></div><div></div></div>
Is trustworthy	98%	81%	-17%	<div><div></div><div></div></div>
Delivers helpful customer service	92%	77%	-15%	<div><div></div><div></div></div>
Effectively communicates during energy emergencies	95%	73%	-22%	<div><div></div><div></div></div>
Proactively shares information (e.g., future rate increases, infrastructure improvements, technology upgrades)	89%	70%	-19%	<div><div></div><div></div></div>
Provides easy-to-use, self-service options for customers online (on their website)	69%	70%	1%	<div><div></div><div></div></div>
Is environmentally responsible	80%	69%	-11%	<div><div></div><div></div></div>
Offers resources to help customers manage energy costs	73%	68%	-5%	<div><div></div><div></div></div>
Works hard to keep energy costs affordable	95%	66%	-29%	<div><div></div><div></div></div>
Provides easy-to-use, self-service options for customers through a mobile app	34%	44%	10%	<div><div></div><div></div></div>

T2B Importance: Percentage of customers who rated item as very or extremely Important

T2B Performance: Percentage of customers who were mostly or completely satisfied with utility's performance in that area

Performance Gap: T2B Performance - T2B Importance (Negative % = Areas of Opportunity for Improvement)

Columbus Utilities

2024 Residential Customer Feedback Research

Margin of error = +/-11.6% for individual utility scores

Item #13.

Desired Service Options	Online	Mobile App	% of customers selecting
Pay your bill	67%	41%	<div><div></div></div>
Receive notifications about power outages in your area	65%	49%	<div><div></div></div>
Report and track power outages	62%	41%	<div><div></div></div>
Find information about energy saving programs and services	61%	22%	<div><div></div></div>
View your historical energy usage	60%	33%	<div><div></div></div>
Find information about utility rate options	55%	24%	<div><div></div></div>
Contact utility staff	52%	31%	<div><div></div></div>
Start, stop or transfer your service	41%	21%	<div><div></div></div>

Program Offerings	%	% of customers selecting
Energy assistance programs	50%	<div></div>
Home energy assessments	48%	<div></div>
Rooftop solar options	37%	<div></div>
Time-of-use pricing options	35%	<div></div>
Green energy programs (purchase renewable energy)	35%	<div></div>
Community solar (purchase shares of solar energy)	32%	<div></div>
Community energy-saving challenges	31%	<div></div>
Smart home technologies	29%	<div></div>
Battery storage technology	24%	<div></div>
Pay-as-you-go (prepay) billing options	18%	<div></div>
Electric vehicle programs (resources to help promote their use)	18%	<div></div>

Communication Preferences	%	% of customers selecting
Email	64%	<div></div>
Bill inserts	53%	<div></div>
Utility's website	37%	<div></div>
Printed newsletter or direct mail	33%	<div></div>
Text message	30%	<div></div>
Utility's mobile app	20%	<div></div>
Account management tool (e.g., My Account or other)	17%	<div></div>
Social media	9%	<div></div>
Radio	2%	<div></div>
Newspaper	2%	<div></div>
Internet ads	1%	<div></div>

RESIDENTIAL FEEDBACK SURVEY

AGGREGATE RESULTS SUMMARY

Item #13.



In 2024, WPPI Energy conducted a residential customer feedback survey on behalf of its member utilities. This flyer provides an overview of the aggregated survey findings and highlights key areas for enhancing customer satisfaction within member communities. For detailed results and specific recommendations, please refer to your individual report.

SURVEY OVERVIEW:



Conducted By:
Sunseed Research, Inc.



Method:
Online survey (email & postcard)



Total Responses:
8,252

KEY FINDINGS:

Overall Satisfaction:

84% of customers are mostly or completely satisfied with their local utility.

Value for Services:

83% believe the value they receive relative to the price they pay is good, very good, or excellent.

Net Promoter Score (NPS):

NPS is 40, up from 37 in 2021.

GAP ANALYSIS

A gap analysis enables utilities to assess how effectively they're meeting customer expectations by comparing the importance of certain attributes to customer satisfaction with the utility's performance in those areas. The 2024 survey once again included a comprehensive gap analysis across several key attributes.

WHAT MATTERS MOST TO CUSTOMERS

Customers value these the most from their utility:

- Reliable energy
- Efforts to keep costs affordable
- Trustworthiness
- Clear communication during energy emergencies

CUSTOMER SATISFACTION

Customers are most satisfied when utilities:

- Provide reliable energy
- Maintain trustworthiness

However, they're less satisfied when it comes to:

- Keeping energy costs affordable

PERFORMANCE GAPS

The biggest gaps between importance and satisfaction are in:

- Keeping energy costs affordable
- Communicating effectively during energy emergencies
- Delivering helpful customer service
- Proactively sharing information

RESIDENTIAL FEEDBACK SURVEY

AGGREGATE RESULTS SUMMARY

(CONTINUED)



AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT:

Strengthen Affordability Initiatives:

Highlight the utility's commitment to reducing costs and share the specific strategies to keep utility expenses manageable for customers.

Enhance Emergency Communication:

Improve approach to communicating during emergencies to ensure timely, clear, and effective updates.

Expand Resources for Energy Cost Management:

Provide additional tools and programs to help customers better manage energy costs.

Engage Younger Customers (under age 45):

Develop ways to connect with younger customers to increase satisfaction and meet their expectations, specifically with seamless digital customer service interactions.

Optimize Communication:

Tailor outreach by leveraging customer preferences, sending critical and satisfaction-driving information via email and text for a more effective and engaging experience with your local utility.

ADDITIONAL INSIGHTS:

Satisfaction by Age:

Across all community sizes served by member utilities, overall satisfaction increases as the age of the customer increases.

Younger Customers (under age 45):

Overall satisfaction for younger customers is driven largely by affordability, being trustworthy, and helpful customer services.

Preferred Communication:

Email (72%) and text message (40%) regardless of age or community size.

FOR FULL REPORT:

Contact Kelly Davis
kdavis@wppienergy.org

EXPLORE YOUR INDIVIDUAL REPORT TO UNDERSTAND YOUR UTILITY'S PERFORMANCE AND IDENTIFY AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT!