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Southern Clinton County Municipal Utilities Authority

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"The Clean Water People"

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Maintenance—Keeping Things Humming

During the final connections that needed to be done for the UV building, the team assisted the contractor with some hydro excavation. This was done on a couple of different days, which involved making entries into the manhole where the SO2 was injected and plugging the line so that the flow would not push back to where the contractors were working. We had to bypass the chlorine contact chamber and the clear well to keep up with the normal flow from the plant. The hydro excavation was needed because of the large pipe they were working on and the multiple utilities in the area they were working in.

The crew noticed our main plant water tank had a high air pressure alarm. After looking into it, we discovered a faulty air intake solenoid valve. We were able to locate one at a local vendor and install it. The tank is now back to regular operation.

During a station run, the team found a

faulty low float at LS 117, and this have now been corrected and is again functioning properly.

The team is getting started on cleaning the final filter that needs to be removed so that the contractors can do the work required to install the third and final new filter.

Crews have started the annual generator preventive maintenance work. This requires a significant amount of time to complete as it involves oil changes and battery checks. Even though it is time consuming, it is necessary to ensure proper functionality during power outages.



Administration

This month, the team continues working with Ziptility to migrate information to a new asset management software system. A lot of data has been accumulated over the last 45 years, and in many different forms. This has somewhat complicated the exporting of data, but it also helped us clean up the data we have.

The team also conducted interviews with some candidates for the open operator position. This position has been open for some time as we having been working to get our two new operators trained and confident in

their abilities. Being down a team member has been taxing on the entire team as everyone has to chip in to help even more as our youngest team members mature and gain more experience and knowledge about our operations.

It's hard to believe, but we are already starting to look at the end-of-year items to get cleaned up and ready to close out. It's been a very eventful year with many changes here at SCCMUA. Many new faces and equipment will be the future of SCCMUA's success.

Process—Making it Clean

All parameters of the NPDES permit were met. The total precipitation for the month was 5.048

Staff have kept up with routine preventative maintenance work and assisted contractors while advancing the plant project. Ultraviolet Disinfection is nearing completion; UV bulbs are in and operational. Sandhill's basement and wet well are currently being demoed for new installations. Staff are preparing to clean out the #3 filter bay to use as a future filter bypass in case of any needed shutdown for the new 1 & 2 filter.

The RBCs have been operationally sound as staff adhere to a strict preventative maintenance schedule. Daily walk-throughs of the RBCs are conducted to look for any abnormalities that may have occurred. This helps to

catch any issues as early as possible and to hopefully minimize impacts as to the potential effects of a prolonged issue. Staff also keep records of the weights of the RBCs for maintenance and operational efficiency; if too heavy, the water header is turned on above to spray any overloaded biomass off the RBC, reducing its weight.

The primary sludge line, which is the pathway for primary sludge to make its way to the digester, blew apart over the maintenance garage, covering walls, trucks, and tools with sludge. A staff member who was working the weekend shift discovered this when making his rounds through the plant. The sludge pump was turned off and he called for additional help. Other

staff members were called in to assist with the issue. It was found that a pipe restraint had slipped, allowing for separation between two separate pieces of pipe. Staff assessed the problem and gathered parts to repair it. Once the repair was made, a deep clean of the maintenance garage was completed, washing off walls, trucks, and tools while conducting some electrical repairs to the wall outlets.

Biosolids hauling is underway. Biotech Environmental is here for the fall haul; SCCMUA has Biosolids hauled twice a year for land application. Land application is done through sub-surface injection; this is an extreme benefit to the landowner as it is a free fertilizer. Biosolids contain essential plant nutrients and organic matter produced by domestic sewage.

Inspections—The Scoop on the Poop

Miss Dig Totals:

Miss Dig Requests: 477

Miss Digs Marked: 100

Inspection Services: 11

Projects:

Miss Dig tickets were down for the month. Large boring projects remain the bulk of the market tickets. Staff have completed the tickets on time, even when multiple subdivisions are required simultaneously.

Staff have finalized the 2024 clean and televising list for Plummer's Environmen-

tal. A total of 64,826 feet will be cleaned and televised this year. The breakdown is as follows: DeWitt Twp: 33,063', Bath Twp: 15,950', City of DeWitt: 7,604', Watertown Twp: 5,128', Joint: 3,081'. The team has also worked to identify areas requiring spot repair liners. Staff were sent out to confirm the location and severity of defects on the list of potential repairs.

While there has been a lot of talk about new phases being installed, developers have been rather shy about starting new developments. Next year, we could see several small developments moving forward.