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Southern Clinton County Municipal Utilities Authority

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Southern Clinton County Municipal Utilities Authority
"The Clean Water People"

3671 W. Herbison Rd.
DeWitt, MI 48820
517-669-8311
www.sccmua.com
www.facebook.com/

Maintenance—Keeping Things Humming

During our scheduled station run, the team encountered an issue with the battery and trickle charger at LS 217. Parts were located and installed, and the generator is back to normal operation.

At LS 107, we had a nuisance alarm that came in a few times and went right away. The team went to investigate and found that the Safepac was faulty. The Safepac controls the power to the high and low float. The unit was replaced and is operating as it should.

Bypass pumping and cold weather are not a very fun combination. The team spent quite a bit of time addressing issues with these pumps this past month, from plugging to losing prime and freezing up. The bypass is now all removed from their location, and we are fully operational on our new pump system.

The start-up of the new equipment was all hands-on deck. All the plugs had to be pulled out of the lines, and all bypass piping and pumps had to be winterized. It took all of us working together, along with

the contractors, to make this transition go as smoothly as possible. The team is excited to be off bypass and learning our new equipment and all the different changes that have been made.



Sandhill VFD's

Administration

With 2024 breezing by, we look to close it and start 2025 off on the right foot. The focus of 2024 was the SRF project and we will look to wrap it up and start some new collection system projects in 2025. The largest is the Chandler Road upgrades, for which we are just starting the design of the sewer work. We hope to get the project out for bid during the second quarter of this year.



Closing out 2024 will take a little more time this year, as a large portion of the project must be accounted for in this fiscal year. Our team is already preparing items for the 2026 budget process as we continue to update costs and pricing based on the new equipment and our partnership with Bio-works to produce energy for our facility on-site.

In 2025, our focus will be on closing out last items on the SRF project while also focusing on our next hurdle, which is the process side of the facility. Our goal will be to ensure we have an adequate and efficient plan moving forward.

Process—Making it Clean

NPDES Permit: All permit requirements were met. Total precipitation for December was 2.00.

The project is moving along as expected with progress being made every day. The Sandhill lift-station is nearing completion as the new pumps (2) dry pit submersibles and (2) submersibles and controls have been installed and are in operation as well. The headworks is also nearing completion as we have switched from bypass pumping back to Sandhill pumping operations. The new bar screen and vortex grit chamber have been put into normal operation. The Secondary clarifiers have had one mechanism installed and is in operation; another is awaiting completion. Both tertiary filters have been installed for a while now and are in operation, along with ultraviolet disinfection being

completed for some time now and in operation. Staff have been familiarizing themselves with the new equipment and ways of operating.

SCCMUA staff have been keeping busy with routine preventative maintenance and tending to any unexpected issues. Staff have cleaned and pumped out the A2 RBC train in preparation for the inspection and any repair possibilities. Common findings when inspecting the RBC operational components can be missing air diffusers, cracked or broken piping, and the occasional loosened bracketry that anchors the air headers to the floor underneath the RBCs.

The Supernatant suction line has been taken apart and cleaned out. The supernatant

will form a crystallized material on the inside wall of the pipe called Struvite. Struvite will build up over time (especially where the bends are involved) and eventually close off the pipe, making it impossible for a pump to pull through. This involves taking the line apart for inspection, chiseling any needed areas clear of debris, running hard bristled brushes through the pipe, and flushing the pipe with high-pressure water from a hydrant. This task is generally performed once every two years.

Inspections—The Scoop on the Poop

Miss Dig:

A total of 406 tickets were checked by staff during the month of December.

- 128 tickets required marking

A total of 5,261 tickets were checked by staff over the course of 2024.

- 947 tickets required marking

Inspections:

- 7 household inspections were completed in the month of December.
- 6 new connections
- 1 repairs

112 household inspections were completed over the course of 2024.

84 new connections

28 repairs

Projects:

Staff has continued to work on improving the GIS and Lucity asset management for the migration to Ziptility.

Plummer's Environmental delivered all the videos and reports from 2024 annual cleaning and televising and from the spot repairs. A preliminary plan has been submitted to Plummer's Environmental for 2025. The spot repair list will be updated after staff have completed reviewing the reports and videos from 2024.