



MT. VIEW SANITARY DISTRICT

Agenda Date: 3/13/25

Agenda Item: 5R-5

Approved:

Lilia Corona
General Manager

WASTEWATER OPERATIONS MANAGER'S REPORT

TO: Mt. View Sanitary District Board of Directors
FROM: Scott Biocic, Wastewater Operations Manager
DATE: March 13, 2025
SUBJECT: Monthly Report February 2025

OPERATIONS

Overview

A fire at Martinez Refinery Company, with whom we share a property line, caused a regional shelter-in-place advisory for air quality. Fortunately, the fire occurred on the weekend and was quickly contained. No staff were exposed to the hazardous air and the shelter-in-place restriction was lifted before it affected weekend plant and lift station inspections.

Staff replaced five UV (ultraviolet) lamps in the UV system Channel 2.

The picture on the right shows the lamp replacement in progress.

Staff replaced the HVAC system in the bioassay laboratory.



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A vendor repaired four of our composite samplers. Composite samplers collect water on a flow-proportional basis for compliance sampling and process control.

Staff troubleshooted a blockage and flushed the entire length of the ferrous chloride line from the tank to the dosing pump in the boiler room.

Staff replaced hydraulic filters and fluid on the Vac-Con, eliminating an expensive shop repair. A vacuum line was also repaired.

Staff discovered and repaired a cracked pulley on sludge pump #3.

The picture on the right shows the pulley being repaired.

Staff continued cleaning up the ice plants around the plant.



We received our last new internal combustion engine (ICE) truck before the California Air Resources Board Advanced Clean Fleet (ACF 1) regulation requiring the purchase of battery electric vehicles (BEV) or other zero-emission vehicles (ZEV) goes into effect on January 1, 2027.

The balanced mixer shaft and the new gearbox and motor for the sand filter flocculation chamber have been received. Staff is planning the replacement.

Staff responded to three significant rain events. Two of which were back-to-back and one of which required 24-hour staffing. The third event saw 2.43 inches of rain for a peak flow of 6.13 MGD (million gallons per day) and a total flow of 4.32 MG. No treatment processes were bypassed during the rain events. Treatment process bypasses are prohibited in our permit.

Total Suspended Solids Control:

We regularly check influent and effluent temperatures and changes in weather as leading indicators for process performance. The lagging indicators are TSS and ammonia coming off the trickling filters and out of the sand filter. There is currently a slight upward trend in effluent temperature. Cold weather interferes with nitrification performance, so this is good news.

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Trickling Filter Operation:

We are continuing to employ our cold weather strategy for operating the trickling filters. The three parts of the strategy are reducing filter flushing to compensate for the reduced metabolic rate of microorganisms, reducing air crossflow in the Biotower to increase water temperature, and equalizing the return of ammonia-rich centrifuge centrate to the plant. Flow equalization is showing significant potential for reducing effluent ammonia levels.

Sand Filter Operation:

We have placed all three sand filter trains online. When the filtered water reject rate is optimized, three sand filters tend to have a more consistent performance with respect to turbidity. Keeping three filters online safeguards against rain events that might otherwise overload the filters.

Chemical Addition:

We are using magnesium hydroxide to maintain the alkalinity necessary for the nitrification process in the Biotower. We are increasing the aluminum chlorohydrate dose to the secondary clarifier in response to increasing effluent TSS and turbidity caused by cooler water temperatures.

Safety:

Operation's Safety Tailgate Meeting:

2/4/2025 Safety Data Sheets

Safety Meeting/Training (Du-All):

2/4/2025 Lockout/Tagout (LOTO) training.

2/4/2025 Defensive Driving training.

Misc. Training:

2/18/2025 Marsh Rounds Orientation and Training. Marsh rounds will be incorporated into our Wet Weather standard operating procedure.

2/20/2025 SERP Workbook review, part 1. The SERP Workbook is the field guide portion of our Spill Emergency Response Plan.

Plant Maintenance (Outside of Monthly Work Orders)

Staff replaced ceiling lamp bulbs in the Administration building.

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Staff troubleshooted the 2009 Prius when it failed to start.

Work Orders (January 28 – February 25, 2025)

202	maintenance work orders were assigned
35	Open
160	Complete
4	Under Review
3	Closed
0	Incomplete

Work order definitions:

Open- task still needs to be performed.

Completed- the task was performed by staff.

Under Review- review is needed before work order completion, or additional work orders need to be created to fix.

Closed- tasks that were not completed by staff due to extenuating circumstances.

Incomplete – tasks that were not completed in the month.

Closed Work Order Explanations (also located in MMS work order notes)

1. WO# 15973: Bioassay HVAC – Quarterly maintenance. This work order was not necessary as we just installed a new unit. This unit will be taken off the service contract for regular inspections. Staff will perform the inspection and cleaning instead.
2. WO# 16035: Equalization (EQ) Pump #1 Check – This pump requires a diagnosis by Shape Inc. or DXP Turbo. It did not megger well. Meggering is a test of motor winding insulation. It may need to be rebuilt.
3. WO# 15916: Nuts and bolts bin inspection – Fastenal in Martinez is no longer in business. The vendor from Fastenal performed this task when called by our staff. This work order will be taken off the recurring schedule.

COLLECTIONS

Overview

The Collections crew cleaned 7,796 ft of mainline. MVSD collections staff spent the majority of the month inside the treatment plant working on other projects as well as working through three significant rain events.

Staff discovered evidence of illegal dumping on Howe Rd. and are working with Source Control to identify the source and prevent future occurrences.

Staff began a review of our SERP Workbook, the field guide for responding to sewer spills. Training will take three days.

Sanitary Sewer Overflows (SSO) and Sewer Service Calls (SSC)

Between January 28 and February 25, 2025, there were no (0) sanitary sewer overflows (SSOs or "spills").

Between January 28 and February 25, 2025, there was one (1) sanitary sewer call (SSC).

2/16/25 A leak reported on Sycamore St. was found to be from the resident's water service, not an MVSD issue.

USA North

Between January 28 and February 25, 2025:

127	USA Tickets Received
76	Tickets Closed
50	Duplicate Tickets
0	Open Tickets
0	No Response
1	Field Meet Required – No response from the contact.

USA Ticket Definitions:

Received – Tickets that arrive daily must be evaluated to see if marking is needed.

Closed – Ticket locations marked or cleared due to no conflicts.

Duplicate – Reissuance of past tickets.

Open – Locations yet to be marked.

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No Response – No response from USA caller when a contact attempt was made by MVSD personnel.

Field Meet Required – The caller/excavator requesting a field meet with staff at the USA mark location.

Mobile Maintenance system (MMS)

Change tickets are being submitted as we find discrepancies in the collections system MMS database.

Lateral Inspections

1/29/25 Pipe burst final inspection performed on Vista Ave.

2/4/25 New cleanout installation final inspection performed on James St.

2/20/25 Pre-CCTV inspection performed on Pomona Ave.

2/20/25 Heritage View Lots 1-5 final inspections performed.

2/25/25 Long repair/open trench final inspection performed on Gilda Ave.

2/25/25 Pipe burst final inspection performed on Pomona Ave.

Pump stations

All February work orders for preventative maintenance are completed or will be completed by the end of the month.

The standby generator at pump station 4 developed a small coolant leak. A temporary generator was rented for the week it took to order parts and make the repair.

Misc. Collections Maintenance

Multiple SmartCover manhole monitoring stations were maintained, troubleshot, and returned to service this month.

Staff performed corrective maintenance on the Vac-Con combination truck hydraulic system. The Vac-Con is being replaced by a GapVax combination truck sometime in July of this year.

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The main gravity sewer on Howe Rd. has started showing signs of imminent failure. Staff have responded to several SmartCover high water level alarms and have had some limited success in removing blockages. The emergency bypass system set up in 2023 is now being used. We are currently receiving quotes for an emergency spot repair while negotiations for a new easement continue.

On February 21 staff troubleshooted a high-water level event on Howe Rd. and discovered evidence of illegal dumping of petroleum products. Central San Source Control was contacted to conduct spot inspections of the businesses upstream of the manhole where the dumping was discovered. We will be following up with a targeted information campaign to discourage future dumping.