

METROPOLITAN COUNCIL ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES  
 Metro Plant Solids Management Improvements Facility Plan  
 PUBLIC HEARING  
 Thursday, August 30, 2018  
 6:30 p.m.  
 Wellstone Center, Room 212  
 179 Robie Street East, Saint Paul, Minnesota

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 PRESENT:

Wendy Wulff, Metropolitan Council Member  
 Metropolitan Council Member, District 16

Rene Heflin  
 Plant Engineering Manager, Technical Services  
 Metropolitan Council Environmental Services

Jeannine Clancy  
 Assistant General Manager, Technical Services  
 Metropolitan Council Environmental Services

Stephen Norton  
 Senior Engineer  
 Metropolitan Council Environmental Services

Tim O'Donnell  
 Senior Information Coordinator/Citizen Liaison  
 Metropolitan Council Environmental Services

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\* \* \*

(The following proceedings transpired.)

\* \* \*

MS. WULFF: Good evening, and welcome to the Metropolitan Council Environmental Services Public Hearing. We appreciate you taking time out from your busy schedules to come and give us feedback on our project.

My name is Wendy Wulff, and I'm a member of the Metropolitan Council Governing Board and a member of the Environment Committee and Community Development Committee.

At this time, I would like to call the Public Hearing to order. The subject of this Public Hearing is the Metropolitan Council Environmental Services Draft Facility Plan for our Metro Plant Solids Management Improvements Project.

Our purpose tonight, is somebody going to be doing the clicker for me?

MS. CLANCY: Sure.

MS. WULFF: Our purpose tonight is to summarize our proposed wastewater solids processing improvements to the Metro Wastewater Treatment Plant, explain the next steps in the process, and then we'll listen to and collect your comments.

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Our staff will make a presentation in a few minutes, focusing on our existing facilities at the Metro Plant, alternatives we evaluated for improving these facilities, and our recommended plan.

Following the presentation, we will provide ample time for you to offer your comments. And then staff will be available to meet informally with you one-on-one at the display boards to answer any questions you may have.

This is a formal, legal, public hearing whose purpose is to receive your comments. Council representatives are limited in the ability to respond to questions or comments directly during the Hearing.

Counsel staff will compile all comments and provide responses in a summary documentation they present to the Council itself. That summary documentation will be mailed to all who provide formal comments and will be available on the Council Website.

MCES Metro Plant Solids Management Improvement Facility Plan includes these key activities and dates.

We conducted an Open House about the project on June 13, 2018; we published a Legal Notice of the Public Hearing in the Star Tribune newspaper and the St. Paul Pioneer Press on July 29, 2018; we mailed over

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4,000 Public Hearing Notices to residents in the immediate vicinity of the Metro Plant on July 27, 2018; we emailed the Public Hearing Notice via .gov delivery on July 31, 2018, to numerous government, community organizations, and other stakeholders.

For the last several weeks, the Draft Facility Plan has been available for the public to review at four libraries in St. Paul; the George Latimer Central Library, the Sun Ray Library, the Riverview Library, and the Dayton's Bluff Library.

The Draft Facility Plan has also been available at the Metropolitan Council building in downtown St. Paul and on the Metropolitan Council Website.

We're holding this Public Hearing today on August 30, 2018, and the public comment period ends on Monday September 10, 2018, at 5:00 p.m. Staff expects to present a summary of public comments and responses to the comments to the Council's Environment Committee in September 2018, and Council decision-making on the Facility Plan is expected in October 2018.

As a brief background, our Draft Facility Plan for this project outlines the need for additional wastewater solids processing capacity at the Metro Plant so that we can preserve existing wastewater

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1 infrastructure and serve regional population growth.  
2 The Draft Facility Plan also discusses the  
3 alternatives that we evaluated and our recommendation  
4 to move forward.

5 Joining me tonight to present the Draft  
6 Facility Plan for this project in more detail are  
7 Jeannine Clancy, Assistant Manager for Technical  
8 Services at MCES; Rene Heflin, Plant Engineering  
9 Manager for MCES; and Stephen Norton, a Senior Engineer  
10 and Project Manager for MCES. Where'd Stephen go?  
11 There you are, I couldn't see you around Jeannine,  
12 okay, sorry.

13 Jeannine, Rene, and Stephen will explain the  
14 proposed project in more detail in just a few minutes.  
15 Bear with me that I have a script that I have to read.

16 As we conduct the Public Hearing, there are a  
17 few things I'd like to point out. If you are  
18 interested, there is a review copy of the Draft  
19 Facility Plan at the registration table. All  
20 interested persons may present comments or opinions as  
21 they relate to the Draft Facility Plan.

22 If you wish to speak at this hearing but have  
23 not signed up yet, please do so at the registration  
24 table. We will call people to speak in the order in  
25 which they have signed up, and each speaker should come

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1 forward to the speakers' table and state their name,  
2 address, and the organization they represent, if any,  
3 because the hearing is being recorded for the official  
4 Public Record. That's why we have a Court Reporter  
5 here.

6 Written statements in addition to verbal  
7 comments are also welcome, and all comments are  
8 weighted the same so don't feel like you have to speak  
9 or have to do things in writing. You can present your  
10 information in whatever manner is most comfortable for  
11 you.

12 Individuals will have three minutes to offer  
13 their remarks, and designated representatives of groups  
14 or organizations will have five minutes.

15 Because this is a public hearing, questions  
16 about the presentation would need to come in the form  
17 of a public comment in that part of the hearing which  
18 will follow the presentation. Staff will not be able  
19 to respond to questions during the presentation itself.

20 And at this time, I turn it over to Jeannine  
21 Clancy to begin our presentation.

22 MS. CLANCY: Hello, everybody, thank you for  
23 coming this evening. Again, my name is Jeannine  
24 Clancy. I'm the Assistant General Manager for  
25 Technical Services.

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1 In Technical Services, our group is  
2 responsible for the MCES, the Environmental Services  
3 capital program, as well as regional wastewater system  
4 planning. And then we are also responsible for the  
5 allocation of how we operate our cost to the 109 cities  
6 that we serve.

7 So a little bit about Environmental Services.  
8 We serve the seven-county Twin Cities metropolitan  
9 area. Again, 109 cities are connected to our system,  
10 and that equates to 2.6 million people, I guess I  
11 should stand in front of the microphone, 2.6 million  
12 people who are served by the regional wastewater  
13 system.

14 Our facilities include eight wastewater  
15 treatment plants located throughout the metropolitan  
16 area. We own 610 interceptors which intercept  
17 wastewater from the local community collection system  
18 in the 109 cities, and we treat on average 250 million  
19 gallons of wastewater every single day.

20 Our organization is made up of about 600  
21 employees. We have about \$7 billion in assets that we  
22 the manage, and again, our capital program ranges in  
23 about the vicinity of \$140, sometimes it dips to \$130  
24 up to \$150, but generally in that \$140 million every  
25 single year.

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1 When you think about the wastewater system,  
2 our Environmental Services, we exist to promote, to  
3 protect public health, protect the environmental health  
4 of the region, and the wastewater system serves as part  
5 of the Council's overall mission which is to promote  
6 the economic growth of the region.

7 So with that, I'd like to give a quick  
8 project overview.

9 (A video was played.)

10 VIDEO SPEAKER: When wastewater is produced  
11 in the Twin Cities region, it flows through an  
12 underground network of local and regional sanitary  
13 sewers to one of eight wastewater treatment plants  
14 owned and operated by Metropolitan Council  
15 Environmental Services.

16 The largest wastewater treatment plant in our  
17 system is the Metropolitan Wastewater Treatment Plant,  
18 or what we commonly call the Metro Plant.

19 Not only does the Metro Plant treat  
20 65 percent of the region's wastewater, it also  
21 processes 75 percent of all solids removed from the  
22 region's wastewater. Solids primarily include sanitary  
23 waste and residues from home cleaning and industrial  
24 processes.

25 The Metro Plant is located along the

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1 Mississippi River, three miles southeast of downtown  
2 St. Paul. The plant uses three incinerators to process  
3 wastewater solids.

4 We propose adding a fourth incinerator. This  
5 will increase our solids processing capacity, which  
6 will cover the downtime of rehabilitating existing  
7 incinerators and serve future regional population  
8 growth.

9 Adding a fourth incinerator at the Metro  
10 Plant is the most cost effective and sustainable solids  
11 processing capacity alternative. It has the lowest  
12 community impact and improves reliability of our  
13 region's wastewater treatment system.

14 To learn more, please visit our project  
15 Website or contact our project team.

16 (Video ended.)

17 MS. CLANCY: So I'll just go over some  
18 highlights from the video. Again, the project is  
19 located in downtown St. Paul at 2400 Childs Road. The  
20 Metro Plant has been there since about 1934. The Metro  
21 Plant itself treats about 180 million gallons of  
22 wastewater everyday from 66 communities in the region.

23 We also process 850 wet tons of wastewater  
24 solids everyday from 73 communities as was noted in the  
25 video. We actually transport some of our wastewater

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1 solids from some of our smaller plants to the  
2 Metro Plant for efficiency purposes. And again, the  
3 Metro Plant processes about 75 percent of the region's  
4 wastewater solids.

5 The project need is to preserve existing  
6 wastewater treatment plant infrastructure. The fourth  
7 incinerator is needed so that we have added capacity to  
8 rehabilitate and conduct renewal projects on the  
9 existing three incinerators, which will be about 20  
10 years old in 2025, as well as to serve regional growth.

11 By 2050, we anticipate an additional  
12 half-million residents will be joining the metropolitan  
13 area, and frankly, as we can see, much of that growth  
14 is occurring in the urban core as opposed to any outer  
15 areas of the region.

16 And so with that, I'd like to turn it over to  
17 Stephen Norton.

18 MR. NORTON: Thanks, Jeannine. My name is  
19 Stephen Norton, and I'm a Senior Engineer and Project  
20 Manager for MCES. Tonight, I'll be talking about the  
21 existing facility, solids processing facilities, at the  
22 Metro Plant.

23 The Metro Plant has been incinerating solids  
24 for 80 years and has one of the most advanced and  
25 highest performing incineration systems in the country.

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1 Each incinerator system includes a fluidized  
2 bed incinerator, energy recovery, and air pollution  
3 control equipment. Next, we'll show a series of three  
4 videos that illustrate how these systems work to reduce  
5 solids, recover energy, and protect the environment.

6 The first of these videos shows how the  
7 incineration process works.

8 (A video was played.)

9 VIDEO SPEAKER: This module will explain  
10 incineration at the Metro Plant. The Metro Plant has  
11 been incinerating solids since it opened in 1938, and  
12 has used fluid bed incineration technology since 2005.

13 Incineration of wastewater biosolids is an  
14 efficient thermal combustion process that reduces  
15 solids by 95 percent. A fluid bed incinerator contains  
16 a bed of sand that has specific granular and chemical  
17 properties.

18 Air distributed under the bed causes the sand  
19 to swirl and act like a fluid, much like a boiling pot  
20 of water.

21 We use natural gas for heat-up when turning  
22 on an incinerator that has been shut off for  
23 maintenance. Like adding wood to a campfire, biosolids  
24 fed into the fluid bed incinerator combust when it  
25 reaches 1375 °F. That's hot.

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1 Biosolids combustion releases flue gas  
2 containing water vapor, carbon dioxide, and fine ash  
3 particles through the top of the incinerator, which all  
4 go through further treatment.

5 The three fluid bed incinerators at the  
6 Metro Plant operate most of the time without the need  
7 for supplemental fuel. This is called autogenous  
8 combustion. As long as biosolids are fed, the  
9 combustion continues.

10 To learn more, please visit our project  
11 Website or contact our project team.

12 (The video ended.)

13 MR. NORTON: The next video will outline how  
14 the energy recovery system works.

15 (A video was played.)

16 VIDEO SPEAKER: This module will explain  
17 energy recovery at the Metro Plant. Energy recovery  
18 saves the Metro Plant and its customers over \$2.5  
19 million per year in electricity and heating costs.

20 We capture the heat released from  
21 incinerating wastewater biosolids. Recovered heat  
22 energy preheats combustion air in the incinerators,  
23 which reduces startup fuel use.

24 Water in the waste heat boilers is converted  
25 into steam. During the winter, steam is used to heat

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1 plant buildings.

2 During the summer, a turbine converts steam  
3 into electricity, reducing the plant's purchased  
4 electricity by 2.4 megawatts, which is enough to power  
5 2,400 homes.

6 And finally, recovered heat energy evaporates  
7 moisture, so there was no visible plume coming from the  
8 incinerator stacks.

9 To learn more, please visit our project  
10 Website or contact our project team.

11 (The video ended.)

12 MR. NORTON: And lastly, I will outline air  
13 pollution control system.

14 (A video was played.)

15 VIDEO SPEAKER: This module will explain air  
16 pollution control at the Metro Plant.

17 The Metro Plant incinerators use  
18 state-of-the-art pollution control equipment to treat  
19 the gas produced during incineration.

20 Carbon is used to eliminate mercury. The  
21 baghouse filters out particulate and metals using cloth  
22 filter bags.

23 In the wet scrubber, water cooling sprays  
24 remove particulates and acid gases. A little caustic  
25 solution is added when needed.

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1 The scrubber water is returned to the plant  
2 for treatment. A wet electrostatic precipitator  
3 collects fine particles onto electrically charged  
4 tubes.

5 Emissions are regulated by the Minnesota  
6 Pollution Control Agency and the U.S. Environmental  
7 Protection Agency.

8 Our Metro Plant incinerators have an  
9 exceptional environmental compliance record. Emissions  
10 are clean, colorless, odorless, and have no visible  
11 plume.

12 To learn more, please visit our project  
13 Website or contact our project team.

14 (The video ended.)

15 MR. NORTON: So like the video mentioned  
16 before, the Metro Plant, the existing Metro Plant  
17 incinerators have an exceptional track record of  
18 environmental compliance, and MCES is proud of their  
19 performance.

20 The fourth incinerator considered wants to  
21 meet very stringent air emission regulations. In 2010,  
22 new federal air emission standards were set for  
23 existing incinerators constructed before 2010. At that  
24 time, more stringent standards were also set for new  
25 incinerators after 2010.

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1 The Metro Plant incinerators have performed  
2 so well that the emissions data from the Metro Plant  
3 was actually used in establishing the more stringent  
4 standards for new incinerators.

5 This graph compares the emission data from  
6 the Metro Plant incinerators represented as a  
7 percentage of the corresponding federal standard for  
8 new incinerators.

9 The graph shows that the emissions from the  
10 existing incinerators are well below the more stringent  
11 standards for new incinerators.

12 The graph also demonstrates the capability  
13 that the fourth incinerator would have in meeting  
14 the new lower emission limits and continue the  
15 Metro Plant's exceptional air quality performance.

16 With that, Rene Heflin will present the  
17 alternative evaluation and recommended plan.

18 MS. HEFLIN: Thank you, Stephen. My name is  
19 Rene Heflin. I'm the Manager of Plant Engineering for  
20 Technical Services.

21 I'm responsible for the proposed Facility  
22 Plan. I'm here to present the alternative evaluation  
23 and also the plan for capital projects.

24 A wide range of solids treatment alternatives  
25 were narrowed down to the four shown here. These

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1 alternatives maximize the region's investment in the  
2 existing incinerator facilities at the Metro Plant.

3 The first alternative adds a fourth  
4 incinerator; the second adds a large digestion complex  
5 that incinerates the digested solids in the existing  
6 incinerators.

7 Alternative 3 adds a digestion complex and  
8 dryer facilities to produce fertilizer pellets.  
9 Alternative 4 adds a digestion complex, adds a  
10 digestion complex to produce biosolids for land  
11 application.

12 Alternative 1, the fourth incinerator, is  
13 sized to treat 125 dry tons per day of solids. That's  
14 the equivalent to the existing units.

15 Alternatives 2 through 4 are sized to offload  
16 the incinerators by 75 dry tons per day. This is the  
17 minimum required to accommodate equipment renewal and  
18 population growth through the year 2050.

19 We have projected a population increase of  
20 500,000 new residents by the year 2050. That's an  
21 additional 60 dry tons per day. The 75 is the minimal  
22 for the growth and the equipment renewal, equipment  
23 renewal needs.

24 The alternative evaluation considered cost  
25 and non-cost factors. The non-cost factors included

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1 sustainability, community impacts, and also  
2 reliability. Adding a fourth incinerator is the  
3 recommended alternative based on both cost and non-cost  
4 factors.

5 This is a concept schematic for  
6 Alternative 1, adding the fourth incinerator. It is  
7 basically a replicate of the existing units and consist  
8 of dewatering, an incinerator, energy recovery, and air  
9 pollution control equipment. I'd like you to note that  
10 this alternative has the least amount of remaining  
11 solids to be trucked off-site.

12 Alternative 2 keeps the existing three  
13 incinerators and adds a large 150 dry-ton-per-day  
14 digestion complex to reduce the solids loaded into the  
15 incinerators by 75 dry tons per day. Digested solids  
16 are incinerated.

17 This alternative includes a combined heat and  
18 power engine generator to recover energy from the  
19 digester gas. The solids remaining after incineration  
20 is about the same as the first alternative adding a  
21 fourth incinerator.

22 Alternative 3 keeps the existing three  
23 incinerators and add a digestion complex smaller  
24 than Alternative 2. It treats 75 dry tons per day, and  
25 the digested solids are sent to a dryer facility to

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1 produce pellets that can be sold as a fertilizer.

2 This alternative is similar to our Blue Lake  
3 Wastewater Treatment Plant which is much smaller than  
4 Metro. Based on our experience at the Blue Lake  
5 Wastewater Treatment Plant, the dryer will consume all  
6 of the digested gas plus some supplemental fuel. The  
7 solids remaining after treatment is two times that of  
8 the fourth incinerator alternative.

9 Alternative 4 also keeps the existing three  
10 incinerators and installs a 75 dry ton per day  
11 digestion complex. But the digested solids are  
12 land-applied as a soil amendment.

13 This alternative has a combined heat and  
14 power engine generator for to recover energy from  
15 digester gas. This alternative is similar to our  
16 Empire Plant, which is also much smaller than Metro.  
17 The solids remaining after treatment is four times more  
18 than the fourth incinerator alternative.

19 The cost alternative, the cost evaluation of  
20 alternatives is based on 20-year net present worth  
21 reference to the existing three-incinerator system.  
22 The fourth incinerator costs less, 50 percent less than  
23 the lowest cost digestion alternative to construct,  
24 operate, and maintain.

25 All digestion alternatives are more capital

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1 intensive than the fourth incinerator. That's because  
2 it takes eight digesters compared to one incinerator to  
3 treat 75 dry tons per day of solids.

4 Looking at the operating and maintenance  
5 costs, Alternative 2 is higher due to increased  
6 supplemental fuel required to incinerate digested  
7 solids.

8 Alternative 3 is higher due to lower  
9 electricity cost savings. All of the digester gas plus  
10 supplemental fuel is used in the dryers.

11 Alternative 4 is higher due to high cost of  
12 solids' handling. Alternative 4 is actually the  
13 highest producer of electricity, but the fourfold  
14 increase in solids' handling outweighs energy cost  
15 savings.

16 Next, I will present our evaluation of the  
17 non-cost factors, starting with sustainability. For  
18 this analysis, we defined sustainability as protective  
19 of the environment, and we considered the following  
20 categories: air emissions, energy recovery, greenhouse  
21 gas emissions, and nutrient recovery.

22 The fourth incinerator has, was found to be  
23 the most sustainable alternative. It has the lowest  
24 air emissions due to controlled combustion and advanced  
25 air pollution control, and it has excellent energy

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1 recovery.

2 We found all alternatives to be equal with  
3 respect to greenhouse gas emissions. Greenhouse gas  
4 emissions from wastewater treatment plants are  
5 insignificant compared to other sources in the Twin  
6 Cities region, such as transportation.

7 We considered phosphorus to be the most  
8 important nutrient to recover because it is  
9 non-renewable. Due to the potential to beneficially  
10 use ash as a phosphorus fertilizer, we found all  
11 alternatives equal with respect to phosphorus recovery.

12 The Council is currently investigating the  
13 beneficial use of Metro Plant ash as a phosphorus  
14 fertilizer with the University of Minnesota. We're  
15 about two years into a three-year crop study, and  
16 results thus far are promising.

17 Included in your folders, and everybody's  
18 picked up one, if you would like to look at additional  
19 information, we've included an insert on this, about  
20 this study with the University of Minnesota.

21 The fourth incinerator has the lowest  
22 community impact. It will have no detectable impact to  
23 the quality of air in the surrounding communities. No  
24 odors are associated with incineration.

25 The fourth incinerator is the lowest, has the

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1 lowest off-site land impacts. It can be constructed  
2 within the existing plant boundaries, and it has  
3 minimum off-site trucking.

4 The Metro Plant has incinerated, has used  
5 incineration technology since 1938. We all three have  
6 said that. Adding a fourth incinerator increases  
7 reliability.

8 First, it provides continuity with existing  
9 operations. Second, it is the only alternative that  
10 provides reserve capacity that can back up solids  
11 treatment at our other solids processing plants. Those  
12 are Seneca, Empire, and Blue Lake.

13 The recommended plan is two parts; adding a  
14 fourth incinerator and renewing the existing three.

15 For the first part, the fourth incinerator  
16 would be installed in a 26,000 square foot addition to  
17 the existing Solids Management building.

18 We did add cake receiving facilities so that  
19 we could load in solids from the other plants as a  
20 backup. The estimated cost of the fourth incinerator  
21 is \$150 million.

22 The second part of the recommended plan is to  
23 renew the existing three incinerators. When  
24 construction for the renewal starts, the existing  
25 incinerators will be 20 years old.

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1 We need to construct the fourth incinerator  
2 first so that we can take each of the existing units  
3 out of service for an extended period of time.

4 This slide shows the type of work we have  
5 planned. I will point out just a few of those.

6 It is an extremely harsh environment inside  
7 the incinerator chambers. We need to rehabilitate the  
8 refractory lining, and also, I'll just point and say  
9 where I'm starting, we need to rehabilitate the  
10 refractory lining and also the air distribution system.

11 At the baghouses, we need to address  
12 corrosion and erosion issues. At the waste heat  
13 boilers, we will be prepared to replace large sections  
14 of waste heat boiler twos.

15 We have scheduled a one-year shutdown period  
16 for each incinerator for construction of the renewal  
17 work.

18 The estimated cost of renewal is \$30 million.  
19 The estimated cost of the total program, add the fourth  
20 incinerator plus the renewal work, is \$180 million.

21 Thank you. At this time, I would like to  
22 return the presentation to our Assistant General  
23 Manager, Jeannine Clancy.

24 MS. CLANCY: Thanks, Rene. So I'll wrap up  
25 the presentation with our summary, a schedule, a very

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1 high-level schedule, impact on rates, and how to  
2 provide feedback.

3 So as Rene mentioned, she went through the  
4 alternatives analysis, and we found that the fourth  
5 incinerator is the most cost effective and sustainable  
6 alternative to meet the region's wastewater needs, and  
7 it will have the lowest community impact, and will  
8 improve the reliability of the wastewater treatment  
9 system.

10 First of all, impact on our rates. So MCES,  
11 as you can see on the top, MCES charges the 109  
12 communities that we serve a wholesale fee for the  
13 annual volume of our wastewater service.

14 We charge that fee to 109 communities, and in  
15 turn the communities charge the businesses and  
16 residents for retail fee. That's generally wrapped  
17 into the water and sewer bill that each of you most  
18 likely pays if you are in the region area.

19 I think there may be one community that  
20 actual wraps it up into their property tax fees, but  
21 out of 109, I think all of them use a utility-based  
22 fee.

23 And on average, our wholesale fee is about  
24 60 percent of a resident or business's sewer fee. So  
25 if you take the utility fee and total the water and

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1 sewer together, which is often more, it would be  
2 60 percent of the sewer portion only.

3 So the project would increase our municipal  
4 wastewater rates by about 40 cents per household per  
5 year, or 0.2 of a cent increase.

6 So it doesn't seem like a lot, I saw the  
7 expressions. But the reason for that is because there  
8 are -- it's spread over 2.6 million people in addition  
9 to the number of businesses that are in the region.

10 The second way that we collect these is  
11 through the sewer availability charge. So we often  
12 call that the SAC fee, or the sewer availability fee.

13 MCES uses the SAC fee to pay a portion of  
14 debt service incurred by financing capital  
15 improvements. So SAC fees are paid by local  
16 governments to MCES based on connections to the  
17 regional wastewater system.

18 Typically speaking, residents and businesses  
19 only pay SAC and local fees to their local government.

20 So this project would increase the sewer  
21 availability charge by roughly \$5.27 per SAC unit, or  
22 again, a 0.2 percent increase. So these increases are  
23 based and estimates are based on the 2018 flow data and  
24 expenditure data.

25 In any given year, some existing debt is paid

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1 off and some new debt is added, which all impacts the  
2 final proposed rate increases.

3 The project was specifically timed so that we  
4 would not have a significant impact on our wastewater  
5 rates.

6 So in other words, I mentioned to you earlier  
7 that our capital program runs around \$140 to  
8 \$150 million a year. This is a very large project, and  
9 will be constructed over a period of years.

10 So we have managed our capital expenditures,  
11 our anticipated capital expenditures so that we won't  
12 have a significant change in that expenditure rate over  
13 that period of time.

14 Here's our project schedule. We've been  
15 working on quite a bit of outreach the last three  
16 months, including meetings with local government units,  
17 regulatory agencies, and neighborhood groups. We've  
18 also met the Chair of the Ramsey County Board and some  
19 environmental advocacy groups.

20 We are asking for the Council to consider and  
21 adopt this Facility Plan in October of this year. If  
22 the Facility Plan is adopted, we would begin the design  
23 and permitting process in 2019, and we anticipate that  
24 that would take about two years.

25 So designing and permitting would run from

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1 2019 to 2021. As Rene mentioned, we would construct  
2 the fourth incinerator first. It would take about  
3 three years, 2021 to 2024, which would be followed by  
4 the renewal of our existing incinerators over a  
5 three-year period.

6 So there's a number of ways as Councilmember  
7 Wulff mentioned, there's a number of ways to provide  
8 feedback on the project.

9 You can visit our project Website, and that's  
10 noted up here, and if you pick up a folder, all of this  
11 information is in the folder.

12 On the Website, you can also see the videos  
13 from our presentation posted there and there are some  
14 other interactive features to learn about the project.

15 You can email our project team at  
16 Info@metrosolids.com. If you use that general email  
17 address, Tess over here and Stephen will make sure that  
18 the right people get the email and respond to you  
19 accordingly.

20 You can leave a comment on our project  
21 hotline at 651-691-9124, and you can send in your  
22 written comments via mail to Metro Solids at 390 Robert  
23 Street North, St. Paul, Minnesota 55101.

24 And finally, I would just want, I wanted to  
25 pass on that we will be receiving comments until

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1 September 10, 2018.

2 So with that, I'd like to pass it back to  
3 Councilmember Wulff who will facilitate the Public  
4 Hearing process.

5 MS. WULFF: Thank you, Jeannine, Rene, and  
6 Stephen. At this time, we'll open it up for your  
7 comments on the Draft Facility Plan.

8 I'd like to remind you to come up to  
9 the speakers' table and state your name, address,  
10 and organization you represent, if any, for the  
11 Public Hearing record.

12 We did not have anybody sign up on the list  
13 to say that they wanted to speak tonight. But you  
14 still have that opportunity. If you want to, you can  
15 go up to the podium and make a comment.

16 So I'll ask one more time; would anybody like  
17 to come up and make a comment? We've got a couple of  
18 people. You can go ahead first.

19 MR. GREENWOOD: Hi, I'm Steve Greenwood.  
20 Nice to see one of the old staff that's here. My name  
21 is Steve Greenwood. I live at 1111 Argyle Street,  
22 St. Paul, Minnesota 55103.

23 Do you need my phone number?

24 MS. WULFF: No, that's fine.

25 MR. GREENWOOD: Okay.

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1 MS. WULFF: Now you can give your comments.

2 MR. GREENWOOD: I just have a few brief  
3 comments of alternatives to evaluate also that were not  
4 on Rene's report.

5 Considering that, you know, we're spending  
6 over \$150 million capital, that's over \$300 million  
7 with interest included, and that, you know, my  
8 understanding is that the annual landfill costs are  
9 about \$400,000 when the incinerators are down.

10 I just had a few suggestions for alternatives  
11 for when the incinerators are down. Consider trucking  
12 biosolids to Seneca to process in their multiple hearth  
13 incinerators, truck solids to Seneca and process in the  
14 and the Envigo (sic) process. I know you'd need some  
15 belt presses and things like that.

16 Back in the late '90s when they had the  
17 public hearings, the Met Council promised the public  
18 they would land-apply about 15 to 20 percent of the  
19 biosolids from Metro, and that's never occurred. So  
20 that'd be one way to fulfill that promise.

21 And then the third alternative is to rehab  
22 two or more of the multiple hearth incinerators at the  
23 Metro Plant. You'd have to install some centrifuges  
24 too.

25 And then Number 4 would be to use the

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1 landfill as a backup to those three alternatives if  
2 they weren't available or something like that.

3 Concerning the cost for rehabilitating  
4 multiple hearth incinerators, I'd like to remind  
5 everyone that's what they argued for about 18, 19 years  
6 ago instead of building a new facility.

7 A few years ago, St. Louis upgraded seven  
8 multiple hearth incinerators for a cost of \$13 million.  
9 Detroit, the nation's largest treatment plant, upgraded  
10 eight multiple hearth incinerators for \$38 million.

11 So combined, two of the nation's largest  
12 treatment plants, St. Louis and Detroit, spent  
13 \$51 million for 15 multiple hearth incinerators.

14 We have six multiple hearth incinerators that  
15 are sitting abandoned, and the six multiple hearth  
16 incinerators at the Metro Plant have more capacity than  
17 the four fluid bed incinerators.

18 They were abandoned because of the U.S. EPA  
19 sued the U.S., or sued the Met Council and the  
20 settlement was to build new treatment, new fluid bed  
21 incinerators, and I argue for keeping them.

22 So that's a major cost for this new facility.  
23 So that's why we've already spent \$160 million for this  
24 facility plus another what, \$18 million, to fix it up  
25 after 2012. So that's up to about \$180 million.

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1 Now we've got to expect to spend another  
2 \$150 million more. I think we need to look at some  
3 more alternatives.

4 Anyway, thank you so much. I appreciate your  
5 time.

6 MS. WULFF: Thank you.

7 MR. DIMOND: Thank you. My name is Tom  
8 Dimond, 2119 Skyway Drive, St. Paul. Thank you,  
9 Councilmember Wulff and everybody for coming to the  
10 meeting.

11 I would really like to thank you for the work  
12 you've done there. It's expensive work, readily admit  
13 it, I'm a taxpayer also. But I would tell you living  
14 downwind from the facility, I can tell you the  
15 difference for this facility, what it is today versus  
16 what it used to be is day and night and greatly  
17 appreciated.

18 It has a huge payoff, and it's not just  
19 because I live downwind, but it impacts the economic  
20 viability of that part of our community as a whole.

21 And there are also other benefits. For  
22 example, we're not landfilling in our wetlands ash and  
23 stuff, so I won't go into that belabored, but it really  
24 has been a significant improvement for liveability and  
25 the economic vitality of this community because of the

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1 work that's been done.

2 And I'm certainly no engineer, but I can tell  
3 you personally that it has made a huge difference, and  
4 again, greatly appreciated.

5 And I'll just touch on that, I would like to  
6 explore further. It's a separate piece, but the  
7 interrelationship between this facility and the  
8 regional park that abuts this property, and I think,  
9 again, it makes the usability of that park as it's  
10 developed much more attractive than it would've been in  
11 the past.

12 Thank you, I appreciate it.

13 MS. WULFF: Thank you. Is there anybody else  
14 who would like to provide comments?

15 MS. MARSH: Good evening, I'm Carrie Marsh,  
16 530 Belvedere Street East, which is right up the hill  
17 from here. Thank you for coming.

18 I'm sorry I missed the beginning of the  
19 presentation. I was at my school's open house. All  
20 the public schools are having open house this evening.  
21 He's five; he goes to our local school. And so part of  
22 the lack of participation in this meeting, I think,  
23 could be attributed to parents being very busy at this  
24 time of year particularly this evening.

25 So I don't have any particular comments on

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1 the plan per se. I looked over the materials briefly  
2 online, but haven't had a lot of time to think about  
3 them.

4 And speaking to express my concern about  
5 public input and ensure that there really is a true  
6 forum for some public comment on the plan.

7 I see that we have about ten days to provide  
8 additional comments. I would suggest that that's not  
9 enough and perhaps you could extend that time and do  
10 some more work with neighborhood groups. I apologize  
11 if you've addressed that already in your presentation.

12 MS. WULFF: Thank you. Is there anybody else  
13 who would like to speak? Going once, going twice,  
14 okay.

15 Since there are no further comments,  
16 I'd like to remind you that the Public Hearing record  
17 will remain open until 5:00 p.m. on Monday,  
18 September 10, 2018.

19 You may submit comments through any of the  
20 methods shown here on the screen. These are also  
21 listed on the information sheets available at the  
22 registration table.

23 I'll make one more call, is there anybody  
24 else who would like to speak on this matter this  
25 evening?

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MR. DIMOND: [1] 30/6 MR. GREENWOOD: [3] 27/18 27/24 28/1 MR. NORTON: [4] 10/17 12/12 13/11 14/14 MS. CLANCY: [4] 2/19 6/21 9/16 22/23 MS. HEFLIN: [1] 15/17 MS. MARSH: [1] 31/14 MS. WULFF: [8] 2/2 2/20 27/4 27/23 27/25 30/5 31/12 32/11 VIDEO SPEAKER: [4] 8/9 11/8 12/15 13/14	20-year [1] 18/20 2005 [1] 11/12 2010 [3] 14/21 14/23 14/25 20118 [1] 4/16 2012 [1] 29/25 2018 [13] 1/3 3/23 3/25 4/2 4/4 4/17 4/20 4/21 24/23 27/1 32/18 34/6 34/18 2019 [2] 25/23 26/1 2021 [2] 26/1 26/3 2024 [1] 26/3 2025 [1] 10/10 2050 [3] 10/11 16/18 16/20 2119 [1] 30/8 212 [2] 1/5 34/6 2400 [1] 9/19 250 [1] 7/18 26,000 [1] 21/16 27 [1] 4/2 29 [1] 3/25	32/7 abuts [1] 31/8 accommodate [1] 16/17 accordingly [1] 26/19 accurate [1] 34/14 acid [1] 13/24 act [1] 11/19 activities [1] 3/20 actual [1] 23/20 actually [3] 9/25 15/3 19/12 add [3] 17/23 21/18 22/19 added [3] 10/7 13/25 25/1 adding [8] 9/4 9/9 11/23 17/2 17/6 17/20 21/6 21/13 addition [3] 6/6 21/16 24/8 additional [5] 4/23 10/11 16/21 20/18 32/8 address [4] 6/2 22/11 26/17 27/9 addressed [1] 32/11 adds [6] 16/3 16/4 16/7 16/9 16/9 17/13 adjourn [1] 33/1 adjourned [1] 33/10 admit [1] 30/12 adopt [1] 25/21 adopted [1] 25/22 advanced [2] 10/24 19/24 advocacy [1] 25/19 after [5] 14/25 17/19 18/7 18/17 29/25 again [8] 6/23 7/9 7/22 9/18 10/2 24/22 31/4 31/9 agencies [1] 25/17 Agency [2] 14/6 14/7 ago [2] 29/6 29/7 ahead [1] 27/18 aided [1] 34/13 air [14] 11/2 11/18 12/22 13/12 13/15 14/21 14/22 15/15 17/8 19/20 19/24 19/25 20/23 22/10 all [17] 3/14 3/17 5/19 6/7 8/21 12/3 18/5 18/25 19/9 20/2 20/10 21/5 23/10 23/21 25/1 26/10 31/19 allocation [1] 7/5 along [1] 8/25 already [2] 29/23 32/11 also [20] 4/11 5/2 6/7 7/4 8/20 9/23 14/24 15/12 15/23 17/1 18/9 18/16 22/8 22/10 25/18 26/12 28/3 30/13 30/21 32/20 alternative [32] 9/11 15/17 15/22 16/3 16/7 16/9 16/12 16/24 17/3 17/6 17/10 17/12 17/17 17/20 17/22 17/24 18/2 18/8 18/9 18/13 18/15 18/18 18/19 18/23 19/5 19/8 19/11 19/12 19/23 21/9 23/6 28/21 alternatives [14] 3/3 5/3 15/24 16/1 16/15 18/20 18/25 20/2 20/11 23/4 28/3 28/10 29/1 30/3 amendment [1] 18/12 amount [1] 17/10 ample [1] 3/6 analysis [2] 19/18 23/4 annual [2] 23/13 28/8 another [2] 29/24 30/1 answer [1] 3/8 anticipate [2] 10/11 25/23 anticipated [1] 25/11 any [7] 3/8 6/2 10/14 24/25 27/10 31/25 32/19 anybody [5] 27/12 27/16 31/13 32/12
\$	30 [2] 1/3 4/16 30th [1] 34/6 31 [1] 4/4 390 [1] 26/22	
\$13 [1] 29/8 \$13 million [1] 29/8 \$130 [1] 7/23 \$140 [3] 7/23 7/24 25/7 \$140 million [1] 7/24 \$150 [5] 7/24 21/21 25/8 28/6 30/2 \$150 million [3] 21/21 25/8 30/2 \$160 [1] 29/23 \$18 [1] 29/24 \$180 [2] 22/20 29/25 \$180 million [1] 29/25 \$2.5 [1] 12/18 \$30 [1] 22/18 \$300 [1] 28/6 \$300 million [1] 28/6 \$38 [1] 29/10 \$38 million [1] 29/10 \$400,000 [1] 28/9 \$5.27 [1] 24/21 \$51 [1] 29/13 \$51 million [1] 29/13 \$7 [1] 7/21	4 4,000 [1] 4/1 40 cents [1] 24/4	
'	5 50 [1] 18/22 500,000 [1] 16/20 530 [1] 31/16 55101 [1] 26/23 55103 [1] 27/22 5:00 [2] 4/17 32/17 5th [1] 34/18	
'90s [1] 28/16	6 60 [2] 16/21 23/24 60 percent [1] 24/2 600 [1] 7/20 610 [1] 7/16 65 percent [1] 8/20 651-691-9124 [1] 26/21 66 [1] 9/22 6:30 [1] 1/4	
.	7 73 [1] 9/24 75 [8] 8/21 10/3 16/16 16/21 17/15 17/24 18/10 19/3 7:30 [1] 33/10	
.gov [1] 4/3	8 80 [1] 10/24 850 [1] 9/23	
0	9 9124 [1] 26/21 95 percent [1] 11/15	
0.2 [2] 24/5 24/22	A abandoned [2] 29/15 29/18 ability [2] 3/12 34/15 able [1] 6/18 about [27] 3/22 6/16 7/7 7/20 7/21 7/23 8/1 9/20 9/21 10/3 10/9 10/20 17/20 20/15 20/19 23/23 24/4 25/24 26/2 26/14 28/9 28/18 29/5 29/25 32/2 32/4	
1		
10 [3] 4/17 27/1 32/18 109 [6] 7/5 7/9 7/18 23/11 23/14 23/21 1111 [1] 27/21 125 [1] 16/13 13 [1] 3/23 1375 [1] 11/25 15 [3] 28/18 29/13 33/6 150 [1] 17/13 16 [1] 1/8 179 [2] 1/5 34/6 18 [1] 29/5 180 [1] 9/21 19 [1] 29/5 1934 [1] 9/20 1938 [2] 11/11 21/5		
2		
2,400 [1] 13/5 2.4 [1] 13/4 2.6 million [3] 7/10 7/11 24/8 20 [3] 10/9 21/25 28/18		

**A**  
anybody... [1] 32/23  
Anyway [1] 30/4  
apologize [1] 32/10  
application [1] 16/11  
applied [1] 18/12  
apply [1] 28/18  
appreciate [3] 2/6 30/4 31/12  
appreciated [2] 30/17 31/4  
are [39]  
area [4] 7/9 7/16 10/13 23/18  
areas [1] 10/15  
argue [1] 29/21  
argued [1] 29/5  
Argyle [1] 27/21  
around [3] 5/11 25/7 33/3  
art [1] 13/18  
as [29] 4/22 5/16 5/20 7/3 7/3 8/4 9/24  
10/10 10/10 10/13 10/14 12/8 12/8  
15/6 17/20 18/1 18/12 19/18 20/6  
20/10 20/13 21/19 23/3 23/11 26/1  
26/6 29/1 30/20 31/9  
ash [4] 12/2 20/10 20/13 30/22  
ask [1] 27/16  
asking [1] 25/20  
assets [1] 7/21  
Assistant [4] 1/13 5/7 6/24 22/22  
associated [1] 20/24  
attractive [1] 31/10  
attributed [1] 31/23  
August [3] 1/3 4/16 34/6  
August 30 [1] 4/16  
autogenous [1] 12/7  
availability [3] 24/11 24/12 24/21  
available [6] 3/7 3/18 4/7 4/12 29/2  
32/21  
average [2] 7/18 23/23

**B**  
back [3] 21/10 27/2 28/16  
background [1] 4/22  
backup [2] 21/20 29/1  
baghouse [1] 13/21  
baghouses [1] 22/11  
bags [1] 13/22  
based [7] 17/3 18/4 18/20 23/21 24/16  
24/23 24/23  
basically [1] 17/7  
be [27] 2/18 3/7 3/17 3/18 6/18 10/9  
10/12 10/20 17/11 18/1 19/22 20/2  
20/7 21/1 21/16 21/25 22/13 23/19  
24/1 25/9 26/3 26/25 28/20 28/25  
30/16 31/23 34/5  
Bear [1] 5/15  
because [8] 6/3 6/15 19/1 20/8 24/7  
29/18 30/19 30/25  
bed [9] 11/2 11/12 11/15 11/16 11/18  
11/24 12/5 29/17 29/20  
been [10] 4/7 4/11 9/20 10/23 11/11  
11/22 25/14 30/24 31/1 31/10  
before [2] 14/16 14/23  
begin [2] 6/21 25/22  
beginning [1] 31/18  
being [2] 6/3 31/23  
belabored [1] 30/23  
below [1] 15/10  
belt [1] 28/15  
Belvedere [1] 31/16  
beneficial [1] 20/13  
beneficially [1] 20/9

benefits [1] 30/21  
best [1] 34/14  
between [1] 31/7  
bill [1] 23/17  
billion [1] 7/21  
biosolids [8] 11/13 11/23 12/1 12/8  
12/21 16/10 28/12 28/19  
bit [2] 7/7 25/15  
Blue [3] 18/2 18/4 21/12  
Bluff [1] 4/10  
Board [2] 2/10 25/18  
boards [2] 3/8 33/4  
boiler [1] 22/14  
boilers [2] 12/24 22/13  
boiling [1] 11/19  
both [1] 17/3  
boundaries [1] 21/2  
brief [2] 4/22 28/2  
briefly [1] 32/1  
build [1] 29/20  
building [3] 4/12 21/17 29/6  
buildings [1] 13/1  
business's [1] 23/24  
businesses [3] 23/15 24/9 24/18  
busy [2] 2/7 31/23

**C**  
cake [1] 21/18  
call [5] 2/13 5/24 8/18 24/12 32/23  
called [1] 12/7  
campfire [1] 11/23  
can [19] 4/25 6/9 10/13 18/1 21/1  
21/10 22/2 23/11 26/9 26/12 26/15  
26/20 26/21 27/14 27/18 28/1 30/14  
31/2 33/4  
capability [1] 15/12  
capacity [6] 4/24 9/5 9/11 10/7 21/10  
29/16  
capital [9] 7/3 7/22 15/23 18/25 24/14  
25/7 25/10 25/11 28/6  
capture [1] 12/20  
carbon [2] 12/2 13/20  
Carrie [1] 31/15  
categories [1] 19/20  
causes [1] 11/18  
caustic [1] 13/24  
cent [1] 24/5  
Center [2] 1/5 34/6  
Central [1] 4/9  
centrifuges [1] 28/23  
cents [1] 24/4  
certainly [1] 31/2  
Chair [1] 25/18  
chambers [1] 22/7  
change [1] 25/12  
charge [4] 23/14 23/15 24/11 24/21  
charged [1] 14/3  
charges [1] 23/11  
chemical [1] 11/16  
Childs [1] 9/19  
cities [6] 7/5 7/8 7/9 7/18 8/11 20/6  
Citizen [1] 1/18  
Clancy [5] 1/12 5/7 6/21 6/24 22/23  
clean [1] 14/10  
cleaning [1] 8/23  
clicker [1] 2/19  
cloth [1] 13/21  
collect [2] 2/25 24/10  
collection [1] 7/17  
collects [1] 14/3

colorless [1] 14/10  
combined [3] 17/17 18/13 29/11  
combust [1] 11/24  
combustion [6] 11/14 12/1 12/8 12/9  
12/22 19/24  
come [5] 2/7 5/25 6/16 27/8 27/17  
comfortable [1] 6/10  
coming [6] 6/23 13/7 30/9 31/17 33/2  
33/8  
comment [6] 4/16 6/17 26/20 27/15  
27/17 32/6  
comments [22] 2/25 3/6 3/11 3/13 3/14  
3/18 4/18 4/19 5/20 6/7 6/7 26/22  
26/25 27/7 28/1 28/3 31/14 31/25 32/8  
32/15 32/19 33/1  
Committee [3] 2/11 2/12 4/19  
commonly [1] 8/18  
communities [6] 9/22 9/24 20/23 23/12  
23/14 23/15  
community [10] 2/11 4/4 7/17 9/12 17/1  
20/22 23/7 23/19 30/20 30/25  
compared [2] 19/2 20/5  
compares [1] 15/5  
compile [1] 3/14  
complex [6] 16/4 16/7 16/9 16/10 17/14  
18/11  
complexion [1] 17/23  
compliance [2] 14/9 14/18  
computer [1] 34/13  
computer-aided [1] 34/13  
concept [1] 17/5  
concern [1] 32/4  
Concerning [1] 29/3  
conduct [2] 5/16 10/8  
conducted [1] 3/22  
connected [1] 7/9  
connections [1] 24/16  
consider [2] 25/20 28/11  
considered [4] 14/20 16/24 19/19 20/7  
Considering [1] 28/5  
consist [1] 17/7  
construct [3] 18/23 22/1 26/1  
constructed [3] 14/23 21/1 25/9  
construction [2] 21/24 22/16  
consume [1] 18/5  
contact [4] 9/15 12/11 13/10 14/13  
containing [1] 12/2  
contains [1] 11/15  
continue [1] 15/14  
continues [1] 12/9  
continuity [1] 21/8  
control [7] 11/3 13/13 13/16 13/18 14/6  
17/9 19/25  
controlled [1] 19/24  
converted [1] 12/24  
converts [1] 13/2  
cooling [1] 13/23  
Coordinator [1] 1/18  
Coordinator/Citizen [1] 1/18  
copy [1] 5/18  
core [1] 10/14  
corresponding [1] 15/7  
corrosion [1] 22/12  
cost [21] 7/5 9/10 16/24 16/25 16/25  
17/3 17/3 18/19 18/19 18/23 19/9  
19/11 19/14 19/17 21/20 22/18 22/19  
23/5 29/3 29/8 29/22  
costs [4] 12/19 18/22 19/5 28/8  
could [3] 21/19 31/23 32/9  
couldn't [1] 5/11

<p><b>C</b></p> <p>COUNCIL [22] 1/1 1/8 1/8 1/11 1/13 1/16 1/18 2/5 2/10 2/15 3/11 3/16 3/18 4/12 4/13 4/20 8/14 20/12 25/20 28/17 29/19 34/5</p> <p>Council's [2] 4/19 8/5</p> <p>Councilmember [3] 26/6 27/3 30/9</p> <p>Counsel [1] 3/14</p> <p>country [1] 10/25</p> <p>county [4] 7/8 25/18 34/2 34/10</p> <p>couple [1] 27/17</p> <p>Court [3] 6/4 34/6 34/22</p> <p>cover [1] 9/6</p> <p>crop [1] 20/15</p> <p>currently [1] 20/12</p> <p>customers [1] 12/18</p>	<p>5/18 5/21 27/7</p> <p>Drive [1] 30/8</p> <p>dry [8] 16/13 16/16 16/21 17/13 17/15 17/24 18/10 19/3</p> <p>dry-ton-per-day [1] 17/13</p> <p>dryer [3] 16/8 17/25 18/5</p> <p>dryers [1] 19/10</p> <p>due [5] 19/5 19/8 19/11 19/24 20/9</p> <p>during [5] 3/13 6/19 12/25 13/2 13/19</p>	<p>everyone [1] 29/5</p> <p>example [1] 30/22</p> <p>excellent [1] 19/25</p> <p>exceptional [3] 14/9 14/17 15/15</p> <p>exist [1] 8/2</p> <p>existing [26] 3/2 4/25 9/6 10/5 10/9 10/21 14/16 14/23 15/10 16/2 16/5 16/14 17/7 17/12 17/22 18/9 18/21 21/2 21/8 21/14 21/17 21/23 21/24 22/2 24/25 26/4</p> <p>expect [1] 30/1</p> <p>expected [1] 4/21</p> <p>expects [1] 4/17</p> <p>expenditure [2] 24/24 25/12</p> <p>expenditures [2] 25/10 25/11</p> <p>expensive [1] 30/12</p> <p>experience [1] 18/4</p> <p>explain [5] 2/24 5/13 11/9 12/16 13/15</p> <p>explore [1] 31/6</p> <p>express [1] 32/4</p> <p>expressions [1] 24/7</p> <p>extend [1] 32/9</p> <p>extended [1] 22/3</p> <p>extremely [1] 22/6</p>
<p><b>D</b></p> <p>data [4] 15/2 15/5 24/23 24/24</p> <p>Dated [1] 34/18</p> <p>dates [1] 3/21</p> <p>day [11] 7/19 16/13 16/16 16/21 17/13 17/15 17/24 18/10 19/3 30/16 34/18</p> <p>days [1] 32/7</p> <p>Dayton's [1] 4/10</p> <p>debt [3] 24/14 24/25 25/1</p> <p>decision [1] 4/20</p> <p>decision-making [1] 4/20</p> <p>defined [1] 19/18</p> <p>delivery [1] 4/3</p> <p>demonstrates [1] 15/12</p> <p>design [1] 25/22</p> <p>designated [1] 6/13</p> <p>designing [1] 25/25</p> <p>detail [2] 5/6 5/14</p> <p>detectable [1] 20/22</p> <p>Detroit [2] 29/9 29/12</p> <p>developed [1] 31/10</p> <p>Development [1] 2/11</p> <p>dewatering [1] 17/8</p> <p>did [2] 21/18 27/12</p> <p>difference [2] 30/15 31/3</p> <p>digested [6] 16/5 17/15 17/25 18/6 18/11 19/6</p> <p>digester [3] 17/19 18/15 19/9</p> <p>digesters [1] 19/2</p> <p>digestion [9] 16/4 16/7 16/9 16/10 17/14 17/23 18/11 18/23 18/25</p> <p>Dimond [1] 30/8</p> <p>dioxide [1] 12/2</p> <p>dips [1] 7/23</p> <p>directly [1] 3/13</p> <p>discusses [1] 5/2</p> <p>discussion [1] 33/5</p> <p>display [1] 3/8</p> <p>distributed [1] 11/18</p> <p>distribution [1] 22/10</p> <p>District [1] 1/8</p> <p>do [4] 5/23 6/9 27/23 32/9</p> <p>documentation [2] 3/15 3/17</p> <p>does [1] 8/19</p> <p>doesn't [1] 24/6</p> <p>doing [1] 2/19</p> <p>don't [2] 6/8 31/25</p> <p>done [2] 30/12 31/1</p> <p>down [3] 15/25 28/9 28/11</p> <p>downtime [1] 9/6</p> <p>downtown [3] 4/13 9/1 9/19</p> <p>downwind [2] 30/14 30/19</p> <p>Draft [9] 2/16 4/6 4/11 4/22 5/2 5/5</p>	<p><b>E</b></p> <p>each [5] 5/25 11/1 22/2 22/16 23/17</p> <p>earlier [1] 25/6</p> <p>East [3] 1/5 31/16 34/7</p> <p>Eckstein [2] 34/6 34/21</p> <p>economic [3] 8/6 30/19 30/25</p> <p>effective [2] 9/10 23/5</p> <p>efficiency [1] 10/2</p> <p>efficient [1] 11/14</p> <p>eight [4] 7/14 8/13 19/2 29/10</p> <p>electrically [1] 14/3</p> <p>electricity [5] 12/19 13/3 13/4 19/9 19/13</p> <p>electrostatic [1] 14/2</p> <p>eliminate [1] 13/20</p> <p>else [3] 31/13 32/12 32/24</p> <p>email [3] 26/15 26/16 26/18</p> <p>emailed [1] 4/3</p> <p>emission [4] 14/21 14/22 15/5 15/14</p> <p>emissions [9] 14/5 14/9 15/2 15/9 19/20 19/21 19/24 20/3 20/4</p> <p>Empire [2] 18/16 21/12</p> <p>employees [1] 7/21</p> <p>ended [4] 9/16 12/12 13/11 14/14</p> <p>ends [1] 4/16</p> <p>energy [13] 11/2 11/5 12/14 12/17 12/17 12/22 13/6 17/8 17/18 18/14 19/14 19/20 19/25</p> <p>engine [2] 17/18 18/14</p> <p>engineer [4] 1/15 5/9 10/19 31/2</p> <p>Engineering [3] 1/10 5/8 15/19</p> <p>enough [2] 13/4 32/9</p> <p>ensure [1] 32/5</p> <p>Envigo [1] 28/14</p> <p>environment [5] 2/11 4/19 11/5 19/19 22/6</p> <p>environmental [17] 1/1 1/11 1/13 1/16 1/18 2/5 2/15 7/2 7/7 8/2 8/3 8/15 14/6 14/9 14/18 25/19 34/5</p> <p>EPA [1] 29/18</p> <p>equal [2] 20/2 20/11</p> <p>equates [1] 7/10</p> <p>equipment [6] 11/3 13/18 16/17 16/22 16/22 17/9</p> <p>equivalent [1] 16/14</p> <p>erosion [1] 22/12</p> <p>establishing [1] 15/3</p> <p>estimated [3] 21/20 22/18 22/19</p> <p>estimates [1] 24/23</p> <p>evaluate [1] 28/3</p> <p>evaluated [2] 3/3 5/3</p> <p>evaluation [5] 15/17 15/22 16/24 18/19 19/16</p> <p>evaporates [1] 13/6</p> <p>evening [6] 2/4 6/23 31/15 31/20 31/24 32/25</p> <p>every [2] 7/19 7/24</p> <p>everybody [2] 6/22 30/9</p> <p>everybody's [1] 20/17</p> <p>everyday [2] 9/22 9/24</p>	<p><b>F</b></p> <p>facilitate [1] 27/3</p> <p>facilities [7] 3/2 3/4 7/14 10/21 16/2 16/8 21/18</p> <p>facility [23] 1/2 2/16 3/20 4/7 4/11 4/21 4/22 5/2 5/6 5/19 5/21 10/21 15/21 17/25 25/21 25/22 27/7 29/6 29/22 29/24 30/14 30/15 31/7</p> <p>factors [4] 16/25 16/25 17/4 19/17</p> <p>far [1] 20/16</p> <p>features [1] 26/14</p> <p>fed [2] 11/24 12/8</p> <p>federal [2] 14/22 15/7</p> <p>fee [10] 23/12 23/14 23/16 23/22 23/23 23/24 23/25 24/12 24/12 24/13</p> <p>feedback [3] 2/7 23/2 26/8</p> <p>feel [2] 6/8 33/5</p> <p>fees [3] 23/20 24/15 24/19</p> <p>fertilizer [4] 16/8 18/1 20/10 20/14</p> <p>few [7] 3/1 5/14 5/17 22/5 28/2 28/10 29/7</p> <p>filter [1] 13/22</p> <p>filters [1] 13/21</p> <p>final [1] 25/2</p> <p>finally [2] 13/6 26/24</p> <p>financing [1] 24/14</p> <p>fine [3] 12/2 14/3 27/24</p> <p>first [9] 11/6 16/3 17/20 21/8 21/15 22/2 23/10 26/2 27/18</p> <p>five [2] 6/14 31/21</p> <p>fix [1] 29/24</p> <p>flow [1] 24/23</p> <p>flows [1] 8/11</p> <p>flue [1] 12/1</p> <p>fluid [7] 11/12 11/15 11/19 11/24 12/5 29/17 29/20</p> <p>fluidized [1] 11/1</p> <p>focusing [1] 3/2</p> <p>folder [2] 26/10 26/11</p> <p>folders [1] 20/17</p> <p>follow [1] 6/18</p> <p>followed [1] 26/3</p> <p>following [3] 2/2 3/5 19/19</p> <p>foot [1] 21/16</p> <p>foregoing [1] 34/5</p>

**F**  
form [1] 6/16  
formal [2] 3/10 3/17  
forum [1] 32/6  
forward [2] 5/4 6/1  
found [4] 19/22 20/2 20/10 23/4  
four [4] 4/8 15/25 18/17 29/17  
fourfold [1] 19/13  
fourth [25] 9/4 9/9 10/6 14/20 15/13  
16/3 16/12 17/2 17/6 17/21 18/8 18/18  
18/22 19/1 19/22 20/21 20/25 21/6  
21/14 21/15 21/20 22/1 22/19 23/4  
26/2  
frankly [1] 10/13  
free [1] 33/5  
front [1] 7/11  
fuel [5] 12/7 12/23 18/6 19/6 19/10  
fulfill [1] 28/20  
further [4] 12/4 31/6 32/15 33/1  
future [1] 9/7

**G**  
gallons [2] 7/19 9/21  
gas [10] 11/21 12/1 13/19 17/19 18/6  
18/15 19/9 19/21 20/3 20/3  
gases [1] 13/24  
general [4] 1/13 6/24 22/22 26/16  
generally [2] 7/24 23/16  
generator [2] 17/18 18/14  
George [1] 4/8  
get [1] 26/18  
give [3] 2/7 8/7 28/1  
given [1] 24/25  
go [6] 5/10 9/17 12/4 27/15 27/18  
30/23  
goes [1] 31/21  
going [3] 2/18 32/13 32/13  
Good [2] 2/4 31/15  
got [3] 27/17 30/1 33/3  
Governing [1] 2/10  
government [3] 4/4 24/19 25/16  
governments [1] 24/16  
granular [1] 11/16  
graph [3] 15/5 15/9 15/12  
greatly [2] 30/16 31/4  
greenhouse [3] 19/20 20/3 20/3  
Greenwood [2] 27/19 27/21  
group [1] 7/1  
groups [4] 6/13 25/17 25/19 32/10  
growth [7] 5/1 8/6 9/8 10/10 10/13  
16/18 16/22  
guess [1] 7/10

**H**  
had [3] 28/10 28/16 32/2  
half [2] 10/12 33/6  
half-an-hour [1] 33/6  
half-million [1] 10/12  
handling [2] 19/12 19/14  
harsh [1] 22/6  
has [23] 4/7 4/11 9/11 9/20 10/23  
10/24 11/10 11/12 11/16 11/22 17/10  
18/13 19/22 19/23 19/25 20/21 20/25  
21/2 21/4 21/4 30/18 30/24 31/3  
have [35]  
haven't [1] 32/2  
having [1] 31/20  
he [1] 31/21  
He's [1] 31/21  
health [2] 8/3 8/3

hearing [21] 1/3 2/6 2/14 2/14 3/10  
3/13 3/24 4/1 4/3 4/15 5/16 5/22 6/3  
6/15 6/17 27/4 27/11 32/16 33/2 33/10  
34/5  
hearings [1] 28/17  
hearth [8] 28/12 28/22 29/4 29/8 29/10  
29/13 29/14 29/15  
heat [10] 11/21 12/20 12/21 12/24  
12/25 13/6 17/17 18/13 22/12 22/14  
heat-up [1] 11/21  
Heather [2] 34/6 34/21  
heating [1] 12/19  
Heflin [4] 1/10 5/8 15/16 15/19  
Hello [1] 6/22  
here [8] 6/5 15/22 15/25 26/10 26/17  
27/20 31/17 32/20  
Here's [1] 25/14  
Hi [1] 27/19  
high [2] 19/11 23/1  
high-level [1] 23/1  
higher [3] 19/5 19/8 19/11  
highest [2] 10/25 19/13  
highlights [1] 9/18  
hill [1] 31/16  
holding [1] 4/15  
home [1] 8/23  
homes [1] 13/5  
hot [1] 11/25  
hotline [1] 26/21  
hour [1] 33/6  
house [3] 3/22 31/19 31/20  
household [1] 24/4  
how [5] 7/5 11/4 11/6 12/13 23/1  
however [1] 33/7  
huge [2] 30/18 31/3

**I**  
I'd [8] 5/17 8/7 10/16 17/9 27/2 27/8  
29/4 32/16  
I'll [7] 9/17 10/20 22/8 22/24 27/16 31/5  
32/23  
I'm [12] 2/9 6/24 10/19 15/19 15/21  
15/22 22/9 27/19 30/13 31/2 31/15  
31/18  
illustrate [1] 11/4  
immediate [1] 4/2  
impact [7] 9/12 20/22 20/22 23/1 23/7  
23/10 25/4  
impacts [4] 17/1 21/1 25/1 30/19  
important [1] 20/8  
improve [1] 23/8  
improvement [2] 3/20 30/24  
improvements [4] 1/2 2/17 2/23 24/15  
improves [1] 9/12  
improving [1] 3/3  
incinerate [1] 19/6  
incinerated [2] 17/16 21/4  
incinerates [1] 16/5  
incinerating [3] 10/23 11/11 12/21  
incineration [9] 10/25 11/7 11/10 11/12  
11/13 13/19 17/19 20/24 21/5  
incinerator [38]  
incinerators [37]  
include [2] 7/14 8/22  
included [4] 16/25 20/17 20/19 28/7  
includes [3] 3/20 11/1 17/17  
including [1] 25/16  
increase [7] 9/5 16/19 19/14 24/3 24/5  
24/20 24/22  
increased [1] 19/5

increases [3] 21/6 24/22 25/2  
incurred [1] 24/14  
Individuals [1] 6/12  
industrial [1] 8/23  
Info [1] 26/16  
informally [1] 3/7  
information [6] 1/18 6/10 20/19 26/11  
32/21 33/4  
infrastructure [2] 5/1 10/6  
input [1] 32/5  
insert [1] 20/19  
inside [1] 22/6  
insignificant [1] 20/5  
install [1] 28/23  
installed [1] 21/16  
installs [1] 18/10  
instead [1] 29/6  
intensive [1] 19/1  
interactive [1] 26/14  
intercept [1] 7/16  
interceptors [1] 7/16  
interest [1] 28/7  
interested [2] 5/18 5/20  
interrelationship [1] 31/7  
investigating [1] 20/12  
investment [1] 16/1  
is [85]  
issues [1] 22/12  
it [39]  
it's [5] 24/8 30/12 30/18 31/6 31/9  
its [1] 12/18  
itself [3] 3/16 6/19 9/21

**J**  
Jeannine [9] 1/12 5/7 5/11 5/13 6/20  
6/23 10/18 22/23 27/5  
joining [2] 5/5 10/12  
July [3] 3/25 4/2 4/4  
July 31 [1] 4/4  
June [1] 3/23  
just [9] 5/14 9/17 22/5 22/8 26/24 28/2  
28/10 30/18 31/5

**K**  
keeping [1] 29/21  
keeps [3] 17/12 17/22 18/9  
key [1] 3/20  
know [3] 28/5 28/7 28/14  
known [1] 34/5

**L**  
lack [1] 31/22  
Lake [3] 18/2 18/4 21/12  
land [4] 16/10 18/12 21/1 28/18  
land-applied [1] 18/12  
land-apply [1] 28/18  
landfill [2] 28/8 29/1  
landfilling [1] 30/22  
large [4] 16/4 17/13 22/13 25/8  
largest [3] 8/16 29/9 29/11  
last [2] 4/6 25/15  
lastly [1] 13/12  
late [1] 28/16  
Latimer [1] 4/9  
learn [5] 9/14 12/10 13/9 14/12 26/14  
least [1] 17/10  
leave [1] 26/20  
legal [2] 3/10 3/23  
less [2] 18/22 18/22  
level [1] 23/1

**L**  
Liaison [1] 1/18  
libraries [1] 4/8  
Library [4] 4/9 4/9 4/10 4/10  
like [26] 2/13 5/17 6/8 8/7 10/16 11/19  
11/19 11/23 14/15 17/9 20/18 22/21  
24/6 27/2 27/8 27/16 28/15 29/2 29/4  
30/11 31/5 31/14 32/13 32/16 32/24  
33/6  
likely [1] 23/18  
limited [1] 3/12  
limits [1] 15/14  
lining [2] 22/8 22/10  
list [1] 27/12  
listed [1] 32/21  
listen [1] 2/25  
little [3] 7/7 13/24 33/3  
live [2] 27/21 30/19  
liveability [1] 30/24  
living [1] 30/13  
load [1] 21/19  
loaded [1] 17/14  
local [7] 7/17 8/12 24/15 24/19 24/19  
25/16 31/21  
located [3] 7/15 8/25 9/19  
long [2] 12/8 33/7  
look [2] 20/18 30/2  
looked [1] 32/1  
Looking [1] 19/4  
lot [2] 24/6 32/2  
Louis [2] 29/7 29/12  
lower [2] 15/14 19/8  
lowest [7] 9/11 18/23 19/23 20/21  
20/25 21/1 23/7

**M**  
made [2] 7/20 31/3  
mail [1] 26/22  
mailed [2] 3/17 3/25  
maintain [1] 18/24  
maintenance [2] 11/23 19/4  
major [1] 29/22  
make [5] 3/1 26/17 27/15 27/17 32/23  
makes [1] 31/9  
making [1] 4/20  
manage [1] 7/22  
managed [1] 25/10  
Management [4] 1/2 2/17 3/19 21/17  
Manager [9] 1/10 1/13 5/7 5/9 5/10  
6/24 10/20 15/19 22/23  
manner [1] 6/10  
Marsh [1] 31/15  
materials [1] 32/1  
matter [1] 32/24  
maximize [1] 16/1  
may [4] 3/9 5/20 23/19 32/19  
MCES [11] 3/19 5/8 5/9 5/10 7/2 10/20  
14/18 23/10 23/11 24/13 24/16  
me [3] 2/19 5/5 5/15  
meet [3] 3/7 14/21 23/6  
meeting [3] 15/13 30/10 31/22  
meetings [1] 25/16  
megawatts [1] 13/4  
member [4] 1/8 1/8 2/9 2/10  
mentioned [5] 14/15 23/3 25/6 26/1  
26/7  
mercury [1] 13/20  
met [3] 25/18 28/17 29/19  
metals [1] 13/21  
methods [1] 32/20

Metro [40]  
metropolitan [18] 1/1 1/8 1/8 1/11 1/13  
1/16 1/18 2/5 2/10 2/15 4/12 4/13 7/8  
7/15 8/14 8/17 10/12 34/5  
metrosolids.com [1] 26/16  
microphone [1] 7/11  
miles [1] 9/1  
million [21] 7/10 7/11 7/18 7/24 9/21  
10/12 12/19 21/21 22/18 22/20 24/8  
25/8 28/6 28/6 29/8 29/10 29/13 29/23  
29/24 29/25 30/2  
minimal [1] 16/21  
minimum [2] 16/17 21/3  
Minnesota [9] 1/5 14/5 20/14 20/20  
26/23 27/22 34/1 34/7 34/10  
minutes [5] 3/2 5/14 6/12 6/14 33/6  
missed [1] 31/18  
mission [1] 8/5  
Mississippi [1] 9/1  
module [3] 11/9 12/16 13/15  
moisture [1] 13/7  
Monday [2] 4/17 32/17  
months [1] 25/16  
more [21] 5/6 5/14 9/14 12/10 13/9  
14/12 14/24 15/3 15/10 18/17 18/25  
24/1 27/16 28/22 29/16 30/2 30/3  
31/10 32/10 32/23 33/5  
most [8] 6/10 9/10 10/24 12/6 19/23  
20/7 23/5 23/17  
move [1] 5/4  
much [7] 10/13 11/19 18/3 18/16 30/4  
31/10 33/8  
multiple [8] 28/12 28/22 29/4 29/8  
29/10 29/13 29/14 29/15  
municipal [1] 24/3  
my [11] 2/9 6/23 10/18 15/18 27/20  
27/23 28/7 30/7 31/19 32/4 34/14  
myself [1] 34/13

**N**  
name [8] 2/9 6/1 6/23 10/18 15/18 27/9  
27/20 30/7  
narrowed [1] 15/25  
nation's [2] 29/9 29/11  
natural [1] 11/21  
need [12] 4/23 6/16 10/5 12/6 22/1  
22/7 22/9 22/11 27/23 28/14 30/2 33/7  
needed [2] 10/7 13/25  
needs [2] 16/23 23/6  
neighborhood [2] 25/17 32/10  
net [1] 18/20  
network [1] 8/12  
never [1] 28/19  
new [12] 14/22 14/24 15/4 15/8 15/11  
15/14 16/20 25/1 29/6 29/20 29/20  
29/22  
newspaper [1] 3/24  
next [5] 2/24 11/3 12/13 19/16 33/6  
Nice [1] 27/20  
night [1] 30/16  
no [8] 13/7 14/10 20/22 20/23 27/24  
31/2 32/15 33/1  
non [5] 16/25 16/25 17/3 19/17 20/9  
non-cost [4] 16/25 16/25 17/3 19/17  
non-renewable [1] 20/9  
North [1] 26/23  
Norton [4] 1/15 5/9 10/17 10/19  
not [9] 5/23 6/18 8/19 25/4 27/12 28/3  
30/18 30/22 32/8  
Notary [1] 34/10

note [1] 17/9  
noted [2] 9/24 26/10  
Notice [2] 3/23 4/3  
Notices [1] 4/1  
Now [2] 28/1 30/1  
number [5] 24/9 26/6 26/7 27/23 28/25  
numerous [1] 4/4  
nutrient [2] 19/21 20/8

**O**  
O'Donnell [1] 1/17  
occurred [1] 28/19  
occurring [1] 10/14  
October [2] 4/21 25/21  
October 2018 [1] 4/21  
odorless [1] 14/10  
odors [1] 20/24  
off [5] 11/22 17/11 21/1 21/3 25/1  
off-site [3] 17/11 21/1 21/3  
offer [2] 3/6 6/12  
official [1] 6/3  
offload [1] 16/15  
often [2] 24/1 24/11  
okay [3] 5/12 27/25 32/14  
old [3] 10/10 21/25 27/20  
once [1] 32/13  
one [12] 3/8 3/8 8/13 10/24 19/2 20/18  
22/15 23/19 27/16 27/20 28/20 32/23  
one-on-one [1] 3/8  
one-year [1] 22/15  
online [1] 32/2  
only [4] 8/19 21/9 24/2 24/19  
open [5] 3/22 27/6 31/19 31/20 32/17  
opened [1] 11/11  
operate [3] 7/5 12/6 18/24  
operated [1] 8/14  
operating [1] 19/4  
operations [1] 21/9  
opinions [1] 5/20  
opportunity [1] 27/14  
opposed [1] 10/14  
order [2] 2/14 5/24  
organization [3] 6/2 7/20 27/10  
organizations [1] 6/14  
organizations,and [1] 4/5  
other [7] 4/5 20/5 21/11 21/19 25/6  
26/14 30/21  
our [56]  
out [6] 2/6 5/17 13/21 22/3 22/5 23/21  
outer [1] 10/14  
outline [2] 12/13 13/12  
outlines [1] 4/23  
outreach [1] 25/15  
outweighs [1] 19/14  
over [14] 3/25 6/20 9/17 10/16 12/18  
24/8 25/9 25/12 26/4 26/17 28/6 28/6  
32/1 33/4  
overall [1] 8/5  
overview [1] 8/8  
own [1] 7/16  
owned [1] 8/14

**P**  
p.m [4] 1/4 4/17 32/17 33/10  
paid [2] 24/15 24/25  
parents [1] 31/23  
park [2] 31/8 31/9  
part [6] 6/17 8/4 21/15 21/22 30/20  
31/21  
participation [1] 31/22

**P**

particles [2] 12/3 14/3  
 particular [1] 31/25  
 particularly [1] 31/24  
 particulate [1] 13/21  
 particulates [1] 13/24  
 parts [1] 21/13  
 pass [2] 26/25 27/2  
 past [1] 31/11  
 Paul [10] 1/5 3/25 4/8 4/13 9/2 9/19  
 26/23 27/22 30/8 34/7  
 pay [2] 24/13 24/19  
 payoff [1] 30/18  
 pays [1] 23/18  
 pellets [2] 16/8 18/1  
 people [6] 5/24 7/10 7/12 24/8 26/18  
 27/18  
 per [13] 12/19 16/13 16/16 16/21 17/13  
 17/15 17/24 18/10 19/3 24/4 24/4  
 24/21 32/1  
 percent [9] 8/20 8/21 10/3 11/15 18/22  
 23/24 24/2 24/22 28/18  
 percentage [1] 15/7  
 performance [2] 14/19 15/15  
 performed [1] 15/1  
 performing [1] 10/25  
 perhaps [1] 32/9  
 period [6] 4/16 22/3 22/15 25/9 25/13  
 26/5  
 permitting [2] 25/23 25/25  
 personally [1] 31/3  
 persons [1] 5/20  
 phone [1] 27/23  
 phosphorus [4] 20/7 20/10 20/11 20/13  
 pick [1] 26/10  
 picked [1] 20/18  
 piece [1] 31/6  
 Pioneer [1] 3/25  
 plan [22] 1/2 2/16 3/4 3/20 4/7 4/11  
 4/21 4/23 5/2 5/6 5/19 5/21 15/17  
 15/22 15/23 21/13 21/22 25/21 25/22  
 27/7 32/1 32/6  
 planned [1] 22/5  
 planning [1] 7/4  
 plant [49]  
 plant's [2] 13/3 15/15  
 plants [7] 7/15 8/13 10/1 20/4 21/11  
 21/19 29/12  
 played [4] 8/9 11/8 12/15 13/14  
 please [5] 5/23 9/14 12/10 13/9 14/12  
 plume [2] 13/7 14/11  
 plus [4] 18/6 19/9 22/20 29/24  
 podium [1] 27/15  
 point [3] 5/17 22/5 22/8  
 pollution [7] 11/2 13/13 13/16 13/18  
 14/6 17/9 19/25  
 population [4] 5/1 9/7 16/18 16/19  
 portion [2] 24/2 24/13  
 posted [1] 26/13  
 pot [1] 11/19  
 potential [1] 20/9  
 power [3] 13/4 17/18 18/14  
 precipitator [1] 14/2  
 preheats [1] 12/22  
 prepared [1] 22/13  
 present [10] 1/7 3/16 4/18 5/5 5/20 6/9  
 15/16 15/22 18/20 19/16  
 presentation [11] 3/1 3/5 6/16 6/18  
 6/19 6/21 22/22 22/25 26/13 31/19  
 32/11

preserve [2] 4/25 10/5  
 Press [1] 3/25  
 presses [1] 28/15  
 primarily [1] 8/22  
 proceedings [4] 2/2 34/5 34/13 34/14  
 process [10] 2/24 9/2 9/23 11/7 11/14  
 25/23 27/4 28/12 28/13 28/14  
 processes [3] 8/21 8/24 10/3  
 processing [6] 2/22 4/24 9/5 9/11 10/21  
 21/11  
 produce [3] 16/8 16/10 18/1  
 produced [2] 8/10 13/19  
 producer [1] 19/13  
 program [4] 7/3 7/22 22/19 25/7  
 project [29] 2/8 2/17 3/22 4/23 5/6 5/10  
 5/14 8/8 9/14 9/15 9/18 10/5 10/19  
 12/10 12/11 13/9 13/10 14/12 14/13  
 24/3 24/20 25/3 25/8 25/14 26/8 26/9  
 26/14 26/15 26/20  
 projected [1] 16/19  
 projects [2] 10/8 15/23  
 promise [1] 28/20  
 promised [1] 28/17  
 promising [1] 20/16  
 promote [2] 8/2 8/5  
 properties [1] 11/17  
 property [2] 23/20 31/8  
 propose [1] 9/4  
 proposed [4] 2/22 5/14 15/21 25/2  
 protect [3] 8/3 8/3 11/5  
 Protection [1] 14/7  
 protective [1] 19/18  
 proud [1] 14/18  
 provide [7] 3/5 3/15 3/17 23/2 26/7  
 31/14 32/7  
 provides [2] 21/8 21/10  
 public [28] 1/3 2/5 2/13 2/14 3/10 3/24  
 4/1 4/3 4/7 4/15 4/16 4/18 5/16 6/4  
 6/15 6/17 8/3 27/3 27/11 28/17 28/17  
 31/20 32/5 32/6 32/16 33/2 34/5 34/10  
 published [1] 3/23  
 purchased [1] 13/3  
 purpose [3] 2/18 2/21 3/11  
 purposes [1] 10/2

**Q**

quality [2] 15/15 20/23  
 questions [5] 3/9 3/13 6/15 6/19 33/5  
 quick [1] 8/7  
 quite [1] 25/15

**R**

Ramsey [1] 25/18  
 range [1] 15/24  
 ranges [1] 7/22  
 rate [2] 25/2 25/12  
 rates [4] 23/1 23/10 24/4 25/5  
 Ray [1] 4/9  
 reaches [1] 11/25  
 read [1] 5/15  
 readily [1] 30/12  
 really [3] 30/11 30/23 32/5  
 reason [1] 24/7  
 receive [1] 3/11  
 receiving [2] 21/18 26/25  
 recommendation [1] 5/3  
 recommended [5] 3/4 15/17 17/3 21/13  
 21/22  
 record [6] 6/4 14/9 14/17 27/11 32/16  
 34/14

recorded [2] 6/3 34/13  
 recover [4] 11/5 17/18 18/14 20/8  
 recovered [2] 12/21 13/6  
 recovery [9] 11/2 12/14 12/17 12/17  
 17/8 19/20 19/21 20/1 20/11  
 reduce [2] 11/4 17/14  
 reduces [2] 11/14 12/23  
 reducing [1] 13/3  
 reference [1] 18/21  
 refractory [2] 22/8 22/10  
 region [8] 8/4 8/6 8/11 9/22 10/15 20/6  
 23/18 24/9  
 region's [6] 8/20 8/22 9/13 10/3 16/1  
 23/6  
 regional [8] 5/1 7/3 7/12 8/12 9/7 10/10  
 24/17 31/8  
 registration [3] 5/19 5/23 32/22  
 regulated [1] 14/5  
 regulations [1] 14/21  
 regulatory [1] 25/17  
 rehab [1] 28/21  
 rehabilitate [3] 10/8 22/7 22/9  
 rehabilitating [2] 9/6 29/3  
 relate [1] 5/21  
 released [1] 12/20  
 releases [1] 12/1  
 reliability [4] 9/12 17/2 21/7 23/8  
 remain [2] 32/17 33/3  
 remaining [4] 17/10 17/19 18/7 18/17  
 remarks [1] 6/13  
 remind [3] 27/8 29/4 32/16  
 remove [1] 13/24  
 removed [1] 8/21  
 Rene [9] 1/10 5/8 5/13 15/16 15/19  
 22/24 23/3 26/1 27/5  
 Rene's [1] 28/4  
 renew [1] 21/23  
 renewable [1] 20/9  
 renewal [9] 10/8 16/17 16/22 16/23  
 21/24 22/16 22/18 22/20 26/4  
 renewing [1] 21/14  
 replace [1] 22/13  
 replicate [1] 17/7  
 report [1] 28/4  
 Reporter [3] 6/4 34/6 34/22  
 represent [2] 6/2 27/10  
 representatives [2] 3/12 6/13  
 represented [1] 15/6  
 required [2] 16/17 19/6  
 reserve [1] 21/10  
 resident [1] 23/24  
 residents [5] 4/1 10/12 16/20 23/16  
 24/18  
 residues [1] 8/23  
 respect [2] 20/3 20/11  
 respond [3] 3/12 6/19 26/18  
 responses [2] 3/15 4/18  
 responsible [3] 7/2 7/4 15/21  
 results [1] 20/16  
 retail [1] 23/16  
 return [1] 22/22  
 returned [1] 14/1  
 review [2] 4/8 5/18  
 right [2] 26/18 31/16  
 River [1] 9/1  
 Riverview [1] 4/10  
 Road [1] 9/19  
 Robert [1] 26/22  
 Robie [2] 1/5 34/7  
 Room [2] 1/5 34/6

<p><b>R</b>  roughly [1] 24/21  run [1] 25/25  runs [1] 25/7</p>	<p>significant [3] 25/4 25/12 30/24  similar [2] 18/2 18/15  since [5] 9/20 11/11 11/12 21/5 32/15  single [2] 7/19 7/25  site [3] 17/11 21/1 21/3  sitting [1] 29/15  six [2] 29/14 29/15  sized [2] 16/13 16/15  Skyway [1] 30/8  slide [1] 22/4  smaller [4] 10/1 17/23 18/3 18/16  so [41]  soil [1] 18/12  sold [1] 18/1  solids [37]  solids' [2] 19/12 19/14  solution [1] 13/25  some [14] 9/17 9/25 10/1 18/6 24/25  25/1 25/18 26/13 28/14 28/23 30/2  32/6 32/10 33/4  somebody [1] 2/18  something [1] 29/2  sometimes [1] 7/23  sorry [2] 5/12 31/18  sources [1] 20/5  southeast [1] 9/1  speak [6] 5/22 5/24 6/8 27/13 32/13  32/24  speaker [1] 5/25  speakers' [2] 6/1 27/9  speaking [2] 24/18 32/4  specific [1] 11/16  specifically [1] 25/3  spend [1] 30/1  pending [1] 28/5  spent [2] 29/12 29/23  sprays [1] 13/23  spread [1] 24/8  square [1] 21/16  St [10] 3/25 4/8 4/13 9/2 9/19 26/23  27/22 29/12 30/8 34/7  St. [1] 29/7  St. Louis [1] 29/7  stacks [1] 13/8  staff [7] 3/1 3/7 3/14 4/17 6/18 27/20  33/2  stakeholders [1] 4/5  stand [1] 7/11  standard [1] 15/7  standards [4] 14/22 14/24 15/4 15/11  Star [1] 3/24  starting [2] 19/17 22/9  starts [1] 21/24  startup [1] 12/23  state [5] 6/1 13/18 27/9 34/1 34/10  state-of-the-art [1] 13/18  statements [1] 6/6  steam [3] 12/25 12/25 13/2  stenotype [1] 34/13  Stephen [9] 1/15 5/9 5/10 5/13 10/17  10/19 15/18 26/17 27/6  steps [1] 2/24  Steve [2] 27/19 27/21  still [1] 27/14  Street [5] 1/5 26/23 27/21 31/16 34/7  stringent [4] 14/21 14/24 15/3 15/10  study [2] 20/15 20/20  stuff [1] 30/23  subject [1] 2/14  submit [1] 32/19</p>	<p>such [1] 20/6  sued [2] 29/19 29/19  suggest [1] 32/8  suggestions [1] 28/10  summarize [1] 2/22  summary [4] 3/15 3/16 4/18 22/25  summer [1] 13/2  Sun [1] 4/9  supplemental [4] 12/7 18/6 19/6 19/10  sure [2] 2/20 26/17  surrounding [1] 20/23  sustainability [3] 17/1 19/17 19/18  sustainable [3] 9/10 19/23 23/5  swirl [1] 11/19  system [15] 7/3 7/9 7/13 7/17 8/1 8/4  8/17 9/13 11/1 12/14 13/13 18/21  22/10 23/9 24/17  systems [2] 10/25 11/4</p>
<p><b>S</b>  SAC [5] 24/12 24/13 24/15 24/19 24/21  said [1] 21/6  Saint [1] 1/5  same [2] 6/8 17/20  sand [2] 11/16 11/18  sanitary [2] 8/12 8/22  saves [1] 12/18  savings [2] 19/9 19/15  saw [1] 24/6  say [2] 22/8 27/13  schedule [3] 22/25 23/1 25/14  scheduled [1] 22/15  schedules [1] 2/7  schematic [1] 17/5  school [1] 31/21  school's [1] 31/19  schools [1] 31/20  screen [1] 32/20  script [1] 5/15  scrubber [2] 13/23 14/1  se [1] 32/1  second [4] 16/4 21/9 21/22 24/10  sections [1] 22/13  see [6] 5/11 10/13 23/11 26/12 27/20  32/7  Seeing [1] 33/1  seem [1] 24/6  send [1] 26/21  Seneca [3] 21/12 28/12 28/13  Senior [4] 1/15 1/18 5/9 10/19  sent [1] 17/25  separate [1] 31/6  September [5] 4/17 4/20 27/1 32/18  34/18  September 10 [3] 4/17 27/1 32/18  September 2018 [1] 4/20  series [1] 11/3  serve [6] 5/1 7/6 7/8 9/7 10/10 23/12  served [1] 7/12  serves [1] 8/4  service [3] 22/3 23/13 24/14  SERVICES [18] 1/1 1/10 1/11 1/13  1/13 1/16 1/18 2/5 2/15 5/8 6/25 7/1  7/2 7/7 8/2 8/15 15/20 34/5  set [2] 14/22 14/24  settlement [1] 29/20  seven [2] 7/8 29/7  seven-county [1] 7/8  several [1] 4/6  sewer [7] 23/17 23/24 24/1 24/2 24/11  24/12 24/20  sewers [1] 8/13  she [1] 23/3  sheets [1] 32/21  SHERBURNE [2] 34/2 34/10  should [2] 5/25 7/11  show [1] 11/3  shown [2] 15/25 32/20  shows [3] 11/6 15/9 22/4  shut [1] 11/22  shutdown [1] 22/15  sic [1] 28/14  sign [1] 27/12  signed [3] 5/23 5/25 34/18</p>	<p><b>T</b>  table [5] 5/19 5/24 6/1 27/9 32/22  take [4] 22/2 23/25 25/24 26/2  taken [1] 34/6  takes [1] 19/2  taking [1] 2/6  talking [1] 10/20  tax [1] 23/20  taxpayer [1] 30/13  team [5] 9/15 12/11 13/10 14/13 26/15  Technical [6] 1/10 1/13 5/7 6/25 7/1  15/20  technology [2] 11/12 21/5  tell [3] 30/13 30/14 31/2  ten [1] 32/7  Tess [1] 26/17  than [8] 17/24 18/3 18/16 18/18 18/22  19/1 29/16 31/10  thank [15] 6/22 15/18 22/21 27/5 30/4  30/6 30/7 30/8 30/11 31/12 31/13  31/17 32/12 33/2 33/8  Thanks [2] 10/18 22/24  that [78]  that'd [1] 28/20  that's [17] 6/4 11/25 16/13 16/20 19/1  23/16 26/9 27/20 27/24 28/6 28/19  29/5 29/22 29/23 29/25 31/1 32/8  their [6] 6/1 6/13 14/18 23/20 24/19  28/12  them [3] 23/21 29/21 32/3  then [6] 2/24 3/6 7/4 28/21 28/25 34/10  there [18] 5/11 5/16 5/18 9/20 13/7  23/19 24/7 26/13 26/13 30/12 30/21  31/13 32/5 32/12 32/15 32/23 33/4  34/10  there's [2] 26/6 26/7  thermal [1] 11/14  these [8] 3/4 3/20 11/4 11/6 15/25  24/10 24/22 32/20  they [10] 3/15 5/21 5/25 6/2 27/13  28/16 28/18 29/2 29/5 29/18  thing [1] 33/4  things [3] 5/17 6/9 28/15  think [7] 8/1 23/19 23/21 30/2 31/8  31/22 32/2  third [1] 28/21  this [46]  those [3] 21/11 22/5 29/1  three [18] 6/12 9/1 9/2 10/9 11/3 12/5  17/12 17/22 18/9 18/21 20/15 21/5  21/14 21/23 25/15 26/3 26/5 29/1</p>	

T  
three-incinerator [1] 18/21  
three-year [2] 20/15 26/5  
through [8] 8/11 12/3 12/4 16/15 16/18  
23/3 24/11 32/19  
throughout [1] 7/15  
Thursday [1] 1/3  
thus [1] 20/16  
Tim [1] 1/17  
time [15] 2/6 2/13 3/6 6/20 12/6 14/24  
22/3 22/21 25/13 27/6 27/16 30/5  
31/24 32/2 32/9  
timed [1] 25/3  
times [2] 18/7 18/17  
today [2] 4/15 30/15  
together [1] 24/1  
Tom [1] 30/7  
ton [2] 17/13 18/10  
tonight [5] 2/18 2/21 5/5 10/20 27/13  
tons [7] 9/23 16/13 16/16 16/21 17/15  
17/24 19/3  
too [1] 28/24  
top [2] 12/3 23/11  
total [2] 22/19 23/25  
touch [1] 31/5  
track [1] 14/17  
transcribed [1] 34/13  
transcript [1] 34/14  
transcription [1] 34/14  
transpired [1] 2/2  
transport [1] 9/25  
transportation [1] 20/6  
treat [5] 7/18 8/19 13/18 16/13 19/3  
treatment [20] 2/23 7/15 8/13 8/16 8/17  
9/13 10/6 12/4 14/2 15/24 18/3 18/5  
18/7 18/17 20/4 21/11 23/8 29/9 29/12  
29/20  
treats [2] 9/21 17/24  
Tribune [1] 3/24  
truck [1] 28/13  
trucked [1] 17/11  
trucking [2] 21/3 28/11  
true [2] 32/5 34/14  
tubes [1] 14/4  
turbine [1] 13/2  
turn [3] 6/20 10/16 23/15  
turning [1] 11/21  
twice [1] 32/13  
Twin [3] 7/8 8/11 20/5  
two [6] 18/7 20/15 21/13 25/24 28/22  
29/11  
twos [1] 22/14  
type [1] 22/4  
Typically [1] 24/18

U  
U.S [3] 14/6 29/18 29/19  
under [1] 11/18  
underground [1] 8/12  
understanding [1] 28/8  
unit [1] 24/21  
units [4] 16/14 17/7 22/2 25/16  
University [2] 20/14 20/20  
until [2] 26/25 32/17  
up [19] 5/23 5/25 7/20 7/24 11/21  
20/18 21/10 22/24 23/20 26/10 26/10  
27/6 27/8 27/12 27/15 27/17 29/24  
29/25 31/16  
upgraded [2] 29/7 29/9  
urban [1] 10/14

us [1] 2/7  
usability [1] 31/9  
use [8] 11/21 12/23 13/17 20/10 20/13  
23/21 26/16 28/25  
used [7] 11/12 12/25 13/20 15/3 19/10  
21/4 30/16  
uses [2] 9/2 24/13  
using [1] 13/21  
utility [2] 23/21 23/25  
utility-based [1] 23/21

V  
vapor [1] 12/2  
verbal [1] 6/6  
versus [1] 30/15  
very [5] 14/21 22/25 25/8 31/23 33/8  
via [2] 4/3 26/22  
viability [1] 30/20  
vicinity [2] 4/2 7/23  
video [13] 8/9 9/16 9/18 9/25 11/8  
12/12 12/13 12/15 13/11 13/14 14/14  
14/15 33/3  
videos [3] 11/4 11/6 26/12  
visible [2] 13/7 14/10  
visit [5] 9/14 12/10 13/9 14/12 26/9  
vitality [1] 30/25  
volume [1] 23/13

W  
want [2] 26/24 27/14  
wanted [2] 26/24 27/13  
wants [1] 14/20  
was [13] 8/9 9/24 11/8 12/15 13/7  
13/14 15/3 19/22 25/3 29/20 31/19  
33/10 34/10  
waste [4] 8/23 12/24 22/12 22/14  
wastewater [35]  
water [7] 11/20 12/2 12/24 13/23 14/1  
23/17 23/25  
way [2] 24/10 28/20  
ways [2] 26/6 26/7  
we [65]  
we'll [3] 2/24 11/3 27/6  
we're [4] 4/15 20/14 28/5 30/22  
we've [7] 20/19 25/14 25/17 27/17  
29/23 30/1 33/3  
Website [8] 3/18 4/14 9/15 12/11 13/10  
14/13 26/9 26/12  
weeks [1] 4/6  
weighted [1] 6/8  
welcome [2] 2/4 6/7  
well [4] 7/3 10/10 15/2 15/10  
Wellstone [2] 1/5 34/6  
Wendy [2] 1/8 2/9  
went [1] 23/3  
were [7] 14/22 14/24 15/25 28/3 29/18  
34/6 34/13  
weren't [1] 29/2  
wet [3] 9/23 13/23 14/2  
wetlands [1] 30/22  
what [5] 8/18 29/5 29/24 30/15 30/16  
whatever [1] 6/10  
when [9] 8/1 8/10 11/21 11/24 13/25  
21/23 28/9 28/11 28/16  
where [1] 22/9  
Where'd [1] 5/10  
which [15] 5/25 6/17 7/16 8/5 9/5 10/9  
12/3 12/23 13/4 18/3 18/16 24/1 25/1  
26/3 31/16  
who [6] 3/17 7/12 27/3 31/14 32/13

32/24  
whole [1] 30/20  
wholesale [2] 23/12 23/23  
whose [1] 3/10  
why [2] 6/4 29/23  
wide [1] 15/24  
will [37]  
winter [1] 12/25  
wish [1] 5/22  
within [1] 21/2  
without [1] 12/6  
won't [2] 25/11 30/23  
wood [1] 11/23  
words [1] 25/6  
work [8] 11/4 22/4 22/17 22/20 30/11  
30/12 31/1 32/10  
working [1] 25/15  
works [2] 11/7 12/14  
worth [1] 18/20  
would [28] 2/13 6/16 15/13 20/18 21/16  
22/21 24/1 24/3 24/20 25/4 25/22  
25/24 25/25 26/1 26/2 26/3 26/24  
27/16 28/18 28/25 30/11 30/13 31/5  
31/14 32/8 32/13 32/24 33/6  
would've [1] 31/10  
wrap [1] 22/24  
wrapped [1] 23/16  
wraps [1] 23/20  
writing [2] 6/9 34/13  
written [2] 6/6 26/22  
Wulff [5] 1/8 2/9 26/7 27/3 30/9

Y  
year [13] 7/25 12/19 16/18 16/20 18/20  
20/15 22/15 24/5 24/25 25/8 25/21  
26/5 31/24  
years [9] 10/10 10/24 20/15 21/25 25/9  
25/24 26/3 29/5 29/7  
yet [1] 5/23  
you [61]  
you'd [2] 28/14 28/23  
you've [2] 30/12 32/11  
your [12] 2/6 2/25 3/6 3/11 6/9 20/17  
26/21 27/6 27/9 28/1 30/4 32/11