

KENNETH J. LUCIANIN
Commissioner



MICHAEL DeFRANCISCI
Executive Director

GREGORY A. TRAMONTOZZI
General Counsel
Acting Clerk

600 Wilson Avenue, Newark, New Jersey 07105
(973) 817-5700
(973) 817-5738- fax
www.pvsc.nj.gov

NEWS

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Contact Information: Hollie A. Gilroy
hgilroy@pvsc.nj.gov
Office: 973-817-5735

PVSC ANNOUNCES NEW, ENERGY-SAVING PROJECTS FOR NEWARK PLANT *New Technologies to Save Nearly \$500,000 in Annual Energy Costs*

NEWARK, NJ – The Passaic Valley Sewerage Commission (PVSC) today announced several energy saving projects, which will create nearly \$500,000 in energy savings annually, while creating greater efficiencies in plant operations.

The four programs that were unveiled by the PVSC's Engineering and Process Control Departments include: Upgrades to the Effluent Pump Station; a Plant-wide Energy Audit; Installation of High Efficiency Geothermal Pumps in the Administration Building; and Upgrades to the PVSC Regenerative Afterburner.

"We're excited to announce that PVSC has undertaken these four important projects to save energy, become more efficient, and save the rate-payers money," said PVSC Executive Director Michael DeFrancisci.

One or more of these programs may be reimbursable by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) as a result of Superstorm Sandy plant rehabilitation work and retrofits.

Administration Building

As part of the rehabilitation of the PVSC Administration Building, high efficiency geothermal heat pumps will be installed. This system will recover and transfer heat or cooling within the building and utilize PVSC's wastewater effluent, eliminating the need for traditional boilers or chillers.

Regenerative Afterburner (RAB) Facility

The PVSC Regenerative Afterburner Facility converts noxious fumes containing organic solvents, hydrocarbons, and odors to water vapor and carbon dioxide through thermal oxidation. The existing system is scheduled to be upgraded with two new 500 HP inverter duty motors and variable frequency drives (VFDs) to replace the existing motors and inlet guide vanes. The new motors and VFDs will allow more energy efficient operation of the fans. It is estimated that these improvements will result in an approximate yearly energy savings of \$100,000. PVSC has qualified to be reimbursed \$360,000 for the cost to implement this project as part of the Large Energy Users Pilot Program sponsored by New Jersey's Clean Energy Program.

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Effluent Pump Station

The PVSC Effluent Pump Station operates four 3000 HP effluent pumps which pump treated effluent water out of the plant. The existing system is scheduled to be upgraded with new variable frequency drives (VFDs) which will replace the existing liquid rheostat controller. The new VFDs will allow for more efficient operation of the pumps. It is estimated that these improvements will result in an approximate yearly energy savings of \$267,000. PVSC has qualified to be reimbursed \$427,000 for the cost to implement this project as part of the Large Energy Users Pilot Program sponsored by New Jersey's Clean Energy Program.

Plant Wide Energy Audit

PVSC recently advertised an RFP/RFQ to conduct a plant wide energy audit. Based on the responses received and evaluated, CDM Smith has been awarded the contract to perform this service. The objective of the audit will be to identify both process and non-process related opportunities to implement energy savings measures. PVSC has qualified to be reimbursed \$100,000 for the cost of the audit as part of the Local Government Energy Audit Program sponsored by New Jersey's Clean Energy Program.

“While doing our Post-Sandy planning, we examined our options for the rehabilitation of the PVSC plant,” said DeFrancisci. “As a result, we were able to take advantage of state and federal programs that now have a financial incentive to invest in energy-efficient upgrades to lower our monthly expenses. We are also pleased that at the same time, we are also making long-term environmentally responsible energy choices.”

The energy savings programs announced today are part of PVSC's continuing efforts to reduce costs to its ratepayers, become more transparent in its operations and become more efficient. Earlier this year, the PVSC released its Calendar Year 2013 Budget of \$159,248,070, which constitutes the third straight year of financial stability at the agency

“This is a tremendous savings, money that can be reinvested into other areas of the plant,” stated Kenneth J. Lucianin, PVSC Commissioner. “PVSC is leading by example and I'm so proud of our dedicated engineers and technicians who have made energy efficiency a high priority.”

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In order to protect and preserve local streams and rivers from water pollution, the Passaic Valley Sewerage Commission operates one of the country's oldest and largest treatment plants for the wastewaters of northern New Jersey, serving over 1.4 million people in five counties.