



CITY OF NORMAN, OK STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: 08/22/2023

REQUESTER: Kenneth J. Giannone, Capital Projects Engineer

PRESENTER: Kenneth J. Giannone, Capital Projects Engineer

ITEM TITLE: SUBMISSION AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY CONSTRUCTION PERMIT ST000014230183 FOR CONSTRUCTION OF NORMAN WATER RECLAMATION FACILITY DEWATERING SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS (WW0236).

BACKGROUND:

Wastewater generated within the City of Norman is conveyed to the Norman Water Reclamation Facility (WRF) located at 3450 S Jenkins Avenue where it is treated and discharged to the Canadian River. Multiple treatment processes are used to produce the high-quality effluent water that is eventually discharged. As a byproduct of these treatment processes, biosolids are generated that go through a separate process of thickening, digestion, dewatering, and land application for final disposal. The land-application of biosolids provides a benefit both to the land owner by providing a free organic amendment to his topsoil and to the City of Norman by providing the lowest cost disposal option.

As part of the biosolids process, the WRF currently uses centrifuges that spin at a high rate of speed to remove excess water from the biosolids. This process reduces the total volume of biosolids that must be disposed, and makes the biosolids easier to load, transport and land apply. This, in turn, reduces the number of trucks and staff needed to dispose of biosolids.

DISCUSSION:

The existing centrifuges at the WRF are approaching the end of their useful lives, and, consequently, they need excessive maintenance, regular major repairs and increasing polymer feed rates to achieve necessary biosolids quality. Moreover, poor service provided by manufacturer often results in extended downtime before necessary repairs are completed. As a result, NUA approved a Contract with Garver, LLC on December 8, 2020 to prepare a design to replace centrifuges, and design for this project commenced immediately thereafter. The design phase, which included evaluation of available products and manufacturers for both equipment quality and service capability, is now nearly complete and this project is anticipated to be advertised for bid in the Autumn of 2023. .

As part of the project requirements and per State regulations, a construction permit from the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality (ODEQ) is required. The plans and specifications for the project were submitted to the ODEQ on March 8, 2023, and the plans and specifications were approved and Permit No. ST000014230183 was issued on April 17, 2023. As noted on the attached copy of the permit, ODEQ requires that receipt of the permit by Owner be made a matter of permanent record in the City Council's minutes.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the receipt of ODEQ Permit No. ST000014230183, dated April 17, 2023, be noted and made a matter of permanent record in the minutes for the City Council/Norman Utilities Authority.