

**Nampa WWTP Phase II/III Upgrades  
Design Review Committee  
Thursday, December 19, 2019  
Nampa Public Library | 215 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue South, Nampa, ID  
7:00 AM – 8:30 AM  
MEETING SUMMARY**

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**Meeting Overview**

On Thursday, December 19, 2019, the Nampa Wastewater Treatment Plant Design Review Committee (DRC) convened its twelfth meeting. The objectives of this meeting were to provide an update on the Project Group F procurement process, confirm approach for the Primary Power purchase, and confirm approach on biogas resource recovery. Please see meeting materials for more information.

**Meeting Summary**

*Wastewater Program and Recycled Water Permit Update*

Nate Runyan, City of Nampa, provided an update on the recycled water permit, which is likely to be finalized by January 2020. According to DEQ, the draft reuse permit received an unprecedented number of positive comments. All but two of the sixty comments submitted were in support of the project. The City is continuing discussions with the two entities that were opposed to the project to ensure they are fully informed of the project details.

Nate also updated DRC members on the completion of the Phase I upgrades, sharing that the project came in approximately \$900,000 under budget. Final Design for Project Group D is complete and construction is expected to begin in March or April. Project Group E is in final design and will likely go out to bid in March.

Questions and comments included:

- 1) Will the submitted comments be made available to the public?

*PGF Procurement Update*

Matt Gregg, Brown and Caldwell, provided an update on the procurement process for Project Group F. Statements of Qualifications were submitted by five teams and evaluated by the selection committee. Of these five, three were shortlisted and invited to submit full proposals. The RFP will be released in February, with all proposals due by March. A notice to proceed will be issued to the chosen firm in June. Please see DRC Briefing #31 for more information.

Questions and comments included:

- 1) Why is there so much time between when the firm selection is made and the Notice to Proceed granted?
- 2) The process of evaluating and ranking the Statements of Qualifications was very clear and professional.

*Primary Power Purchase*

Matt Gregg provided an overview of the three primary power purchase options under evaluation for powering the WWTP. Currently the infrastructure is rented by the City from Idaho Power. As costs are expected to increase as the upgrades to the WWTP are made, alternatives for purchasing the infrastructure have been brought to the DRC. The Technical Team recommended to the DRC that the City pursue purchasing the

primary power system from Idaho Power in order to maximize cost savings and increase plant resiliency. The DRC approved this recommendation. Please see DRC Briefing # 32 for more information.

Questions included:

- 1) What is the fuel source for the backup generators?
- 2) What is the risk of needing to complete major upgrades once the City buys the system?
- 3) Is the current growth in the Treasure Valley likely to put stress on Idaho Power's infrastructure, resulting in increased number of power outages?

#### *Biogas Resource Recovery Alternatives Recommendation*

Matt Gregg provided a more detailed review of the biogas resource recovery alternatives, focusing on how the value of RINs is determined, which is a critical component to receiving a return on investment. Because the value of RINs fluctuates based on federal policy and is currently fairly low, the DRC recommended that biogas recovery alternatives not be pursued until RIN values are higher and recovery activities can provide the City an ROI. Please see DRC Briefing #33 for more information.

Questions included:

- 1) Is biogas recovery something that could be added later in the life of the project?

#### *Preliminary Design Summary*

Matt Greg provided a summary review of the major design decisions that have been made throughout the prior year with DRC involvement, as well as the project packaging and delivery method. DRC members stated that these highlights need to be shared with the public to ensure they understand the process and the cost savings that were identified. Suggestions for public outreach included:

- A public open house or ribbon cutting at the WWTP in the spring
- Educational tours for students
- Creation of a 5-10 minute video highlighting the coming upgrades and benefits to residents
- A presentation to City Council highlighting the benefits of the project. This presentation could also be shared with the press.
- Presentation to the Concerned Citizens group

Questions included:

- 1) What was the decision on biosolid treatment? Is there a cost associated with transitioning to agricultural use?
- 2) What is the size of farm that would be interested in taking the City's biosolids?

#### *Next Steps*

- The next DRC meeting will be in Spring 2020, and will likely be convened quarterly throughout 2020. Email updates will be sent out to DRC members between meetings to share information and solicit questions.