

building a sustainable future for Burbank, CA

COMPREHENSIVE PROFESSIONAL SERVICES



Operation and maintenance of operation and maintenance of one pump station and medium sized (i.e., 2018 plant flow ~ 7.5 mgd) activated sludge wastewater reclamation plant. Administration of Industrial Source Reduction Control and Illicit Stormwater programs. Oversight of city-authorized and financed capital improvements.



POPULATION SERVED: 100,000

AWARDS / ACHIEVEMENTS

Achieved EPA compliance for Industrial Pretreatment Program. Achieved a safety record better than the national industry average. Assisted with the EPA “Model Industrial User” study.

Burbank’s Industrial Source Reduction and Control Program is recognized as one of the most significant programs in California.

Burbank, California

home to three of the world's largest
movie and TV studios, has another star
— clean water.



our commitment to serving Burbank

The reclamation process “recycles” wastewater so that it meets stringent California Recycled Water Permit standards. After treatment, this water can be used for non-drinking purposes such as irrigation or industrial needs. The activated sludge wastewater reclamation plant utilizes biological nutrient removal (BNR). The BNR process is the removal of ammonia by converting it to a nitrate and then a harmless nitrogen gas that releases into the atmosphere. The treatment plant’s discharge limits have been established under the facility National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit. Tertiary-treated effluent is reused as a water supply for: cooling towers at the city-owned Magnolia Power Plant, irrigating a golf course, and landscaping along freeways and shopping centers, and controlling dust at the city-owned landfill. There are approximately 45 end users that contract with Burbank Water and Power for using this recycled water. The recycled water is covered under a second Recycled Water Permit with discharge limits once again established with a second NPDES permit. The project scope also includes administration of the Industrial Source Reduction Control Program (with 5 significant industrial users, 16 non-significant categorical industrial users, 848 commercial and industrial users with active control mechanisms, out of 2,526 commercial and industrial users). The Illicit Stormwater Program is the third and final permit for the facility with state required sampling of storm water prior to discharge to the Burbank Western channel.

In addition to enhancing Burbank’s reclamation operations, SUEZ also improved the city’s industrial wastewater monitoring procedures and its Illicit Stormwater Program. The results have been better water quality as well as cost savings.

The public-private partnership has been so successful that the original three-year contract, signed in 1990, has been expanded and renewed several times. The current contract is in place through June 30, 2021.

When SUEZ first began working with Burbank over 28 years ago, the city was under an Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) order to drastically improve its Industrial Pretreatment Program (IPP). Since then, SUEZ successfully implemented many changes to reduce or eliminate hazardous pollutants in wastewater before it is discharged into the Los Angeles River.

The program included database development as well as improved sampling, surveillance and inspection procedures. Since taking over SUEZ has managed over \$25 million dollars for plant upgrades in Capital Improvement Projects (CIP). This included a construction project which transitioned the facility from a conventional activated sludge process to a biological nutrient removal process. Additional major projects included replacement of four (4) different chemical pumping systems, installation of Turbine Blowers that have saved \$75K per year in utility costs, bar screen replacement and help with the city Pump Station and force main replacement projects. 2018 CIP Projects alone are \$1.7 million dollars.

With SUEZ as its operator, Burbank has achieved improved performance and cost savings, better odor control and safety records, state certification of its laboratory and the implementation of an educational partnership with the school system.

Clearly, when it comes to clean water, Burbank’s star is rising.

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