

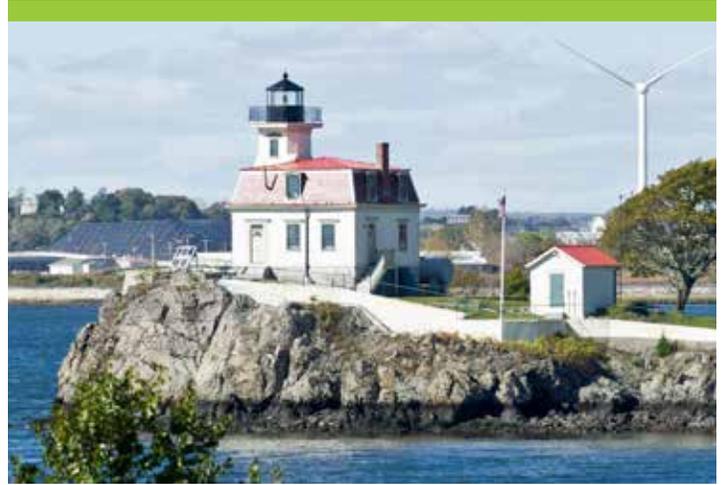
# building the wastewater system of the future in East Providence, RI

Like many municipalities across the country, East Providence, Rhode Island was encumbered with an antiquated, out of compliance wastewater infrastructure. In 2007, the EPA issued a consent order to add a biological nutrient removal system to their wastewater treatment system. Looking for assistance, they did what many municipalities do: they brought SUEZ on board.

Given the complexity of wastewater treatment systems, there are no one-size-fits-all solutions. East Providence turned out to be an ideal municipality for a Design-Build-Operate partner.

# working in partnership

“What the City and SUEZ have done is nothing short of spectacular,” said former Mayor Joseph S. Larisa, Jr. said. “The City and its residents receive a new wastewater treatment plant, a new pumping station and professional wastewater service, and we retain the right to set our rates and keep jobs for our workers.”



## our commitment to serving East Providence communities

Under the terms of the 10-year, DBO contract it signed with the city in 2010, SUEZ was tasked with rehabilitating East Providence’s 103-mile collection system and wastewater treatment facility. We were able to design and implement a brand new biological nutrient removal system, and our contract of combined services came in at \$13 million under the projected budget given by the city. Our upgrades to the existing facility collection system eliminated SSOs, improved the activated sludge system to include BNR, and added improvements to solids handling and odor control. These improvements boosted water quality in the Providence River and Narragansett Bay by using naturally occurring microorganisms, rather than chemicals, to remove nitrogen during treatment.

The new plant design includes scalable technologies that allow for future modifications to meet increasingly stringent regulations. All new facilities are located on sites that minimize environmental impact, constructed using low maintenance and energy conserving materials, and are operated with energy efficient equipment.

SUEZ also constructed an enclosed headworks building, installed two new odor control systems and upgraded a

third, installed an enclosed belt-press dewatering system and doubled the pumping capacity of the Watchemoket Pump Station to 10.5 million gallons per day.

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SUEZ’ approach saved the City approximately \$4 million by installing the new 24-inch pipeline along the bike path instead of along Pawtucket Avenue. We installed the pipeline during the off season, and then repaved and restored the bike path, building new scenic and recreational facilities along the path, which provides environmental and community benefits.

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