

Eric Wieduwilt is Appointed Acting Deputy Director of Planning and Engineering



Eric Wieduwilt has been appointed to the position of Acting Deputy Director of Planning and Engineering. Eric assumed this responsibility after the departure of the previous Deputy Director, Mike Bunch.

Eric has eleven years of experience with RWRD. Most recently he served for three years as the department's Chief Engineer. Prior to his position of Chief Engineer, Mr. Wieduwilt served for eight years in the position of Civil Engineer in the department's Conveyance Division.

Mr. Wieduwilt's responsibilities as Acting Deputy Director include the planning and delivery of the Capital Improvement Program (CIP), the evaluation of capacity for new developments, the design review and construction acceptance process for new sewer systems associated with development and those modified by other municipal/utility projects, and the establishment of design and construction standards for public sanitary sewer systems.

Mr. Wieduwilt holds a bachelor's degree in Geophysical Engineering from the Colorado School of Mines in and a master's degree in Environmental Policy and Management from the University of Denver. He is a registered professional civil engineer in both Arizona and Colorado.

Regional Optimization Master Plan

Preparation for the Regional Optimization Master Plan (ROMP) is underway on various components of this massive regulatory project.

Ina Road Facility Capacity Expansion and Effluent Quality Upgrade project: Interviews of shortlisted firms for the design engineer of the Ina Road Capacity Expansion and Effluent Quality Upgrade Project were completed in January. The department's recommendation of CH2MHill received Board of Supervisors Approval on February 5 for a contact amount not to exceed \$18 million. Contract negotiations with CH2MHill were completed in March.

Construction Manager at Risk (Ina Road Facility Capacity Expansion and Effluent Quality Upgrade Project): Statements of Qualification for the Construction Manager at Risk for the Ina Road Facility Capacity Expansion and Effluent Quality Upgrade Project were received on January 11. Interviews of shortlisted firms were conducted on February 29. The Board of Supervisors ultimately approved a contract limited to \$2 million to Montgomery Watson Construction, Inc. for pre-construction services.

Water Campus Delivery Options: RWRD staff and ROMP consultants have been engaged in workshops to evaluate alternative delivery methodologies for the Water Campus. Through the alternatives being considered, the RWRD will determine funding, design, construction and operation options that may be available to the county.

ODOR CONTROL

During the first quarter of Calendar Year 2008, RWRD completed and placed into operation, an odor control project on the south Biotower at the Roger Road Wastewater Reclamation Facility. The department projects that the odor control project for the north biotower will be completed by June or July.

To assure that all operating odor control projects are functioning, the department has formed a department-wide interdisciplinary management team to continue to address odors system wide. Staff from the Conveyance Division, the Treatment Division, and the Directors Office meet regularly to manage the overall odor control program and to determine if modifications are needed at any of the treatment facilities or in the conveyance system.

The Odor Control team tests ambient air at our facilities' fence lines and measures hydrogen sulfide levels in neighborhoods where odor complaints have been received. While some odors have been found to be generated in the conveyance system, staff has been able to track some odors to other businesses in the vicinity of the complaint. When odors are generated from a private source, staff works - to the greatest extent possible - with the owner or manager to provide advice on odor-reduction techniques and practices.



Odor Control on the south Biotower is now operational.

In December 2007, members of the Citizen's Involvement Committee (CIC) presented their recommendations for continued odor control and oversight of odor control to the Board of Supervisors. After receiving the CIC's presentation, the Board asked the Wastewater Management Advisory Committee (WMAC) to review the recommendations put forth by the CIC and to report back on those recommendations. After discussing the CIC's report and recommendations, the WMAC submitted feedback to the Board on March 20. While most of the CIC's recommendations were accepted by the WMAC, the committee did modify some of those recommendations.

Vector Control

The systematic Vector Control Program continues to provide highly effective service for Pima County residents. The following table provides a comparative review of roach complaints to RWRD's Conveyance Division.

Historical Review of Roach Complaints for the First Quarter of Calendar Year

Year	January	February	March
2005	158	151	187
2006	185	150	192
2007	28	11	79
2008	18	16	56

Warmer weather triggers roaches to become more active and seek cooler environments. This phenomenon will cause an increase in roach complaints during the upcoming summer months. However, RWRD's contractor uses a very effective product, and even during the hotter months, the department expects to see continued decreases in the number of calls compared to previous years. As always, if a manhole is found to be infested and it has been treated within the last two years, the department's contractor will retreat the manhole at no cost to RWRD.

ISO/OHSAS

In February, the Conveyance Division was notified that the division had achieved three international certifications denoting compliance with standards sanctioned by the International Organization of Standardization (ISO) and Occupational Health and Safety Assessment Series (OHSAS). ISO and OHSAS certifications are issued only after rigorous and exacting audits prove that the entities seeking certification meet specific standards of excellence. The RWRD Conveyance Division achieved ISO certifications in the areas of Quality Management Systems (ISO 9901) and Environmental Management Systems (ISO 14001). They also received OHSAS certification in the area of Health and Safety (18001).

ISO is recognized world-wide as a global network that identifies and develops international standards for excellence for businesses and governments. An ISO certification demonstrates to regulatory agencies that an organization is committed to continual improvement (ISO 9001) and is proactive about reducing pollution (ISO 14001). OHSAS 18001 is an Occupational Health and Safety Management Series that controls occupation health and safety risks and improves performance. ISO and OHSAS certifications guarantee that an entity's major and critical processes have been thoroughly reviewed and have been evaluated to ensure that only the best practices remain in place and are well-defined.

Through the ISO and OHSAS certification processes, the Conveyance Division has established specific guidelines that ensure daily operational consistency.

Certifications can only be achieved after rigorous and exacting audits of entities that meet the standards of excellence required by ISO and OHSAS. TÜV SÜD America Inc. is an ISO and OHSAS authorized registrar that is empowered to audit and approve organizations seeking certification. TÜV SÜD of America, Inc. performed the audits and certified the Conveyance Division earlier this year. (TÜV SÜD is a German Acronym. The English translation of the full German name is Southern Technical Inspection Association. TÜV SÜD was first established in Germany; its American affiliate is TÜV SÜD of America.)

The Conveyance Division now joins world class organizations that have achieved ISO and OHSAS certifications including IBM, Motorola, and Sherwin Williams. The Conveyance Division holds a particularly unique achievement in that it is only one of two organizations worldwide that has received three certifications simultaneously.

A presentation of the ISO certifications will be made to the Board of Supervisors in May.



Achievement of ISO and OHSAS Certifications was a true team effort. Picture above is the staff that made certification possible.

Department Dialogue Meetings

RWRD's Executive Team held a series of department dialogue meetings between February 21 and March 18. These meetings serve to update all RWRD employees on the department's many endeavors, ongoing improvements, policies, and plans for future projects and activities. Presentations are made during all three shifts and at a number of different RWRD work sites. This is done to accommodate all the department's employees. Two hours were scheduled for each meeting to allow the Executive Team to give a power point presentation and to receive questions, comments and feedback from staff. Department Dialogue meetings are held twice a year to keep staff well-informed and to allow the Executive Team to hear first-hand staff's concerns and insights about their jobs and the department's activities.



Staff at the Roger Road Wastewater Reclamation Facility Learn About the Departments Plans and Activities

Ina Road Wastewater Reclamation Facility Receives Variance from ADEQ

On February 19, the Ina Road Wastewater Reclamation Facility received a six month variance from the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality. This variance allows RWRD to operate the new expansion above its rated capacity of 12.5 million gallons a day (mgd). During the variance period, the Ina Road facility will not be penalized if certain permit requirements are not met. This period will allow the facility to determine how operational practices will impact the department's ability to treat greater flows in the new expansion. Ina Road facility employees are working with the contractor that designed the facility and RWRD technical staff to find the balance between treating additional flows while staying in compliance with permit parameters. Initial testing appears to be promising. For every additional 1 mgd the expansion can handle, RWRD can save approximately \$10 to \$12 in future expansion construction costs.



Testing of the Ina Road Facility Expansion Could Yield Significant Cost Savings

Media Coverage of Pharmaceutical and Personal Care Products

Recent national news stories highlighted the presence of Pharmaceutical and Personal Care Product (PPCPs) contaminants in the nation's water and wastewater supplies. Although the department was not contacted by local media about this issue, RWRD created a document that outlines some of the concerns facing the nation and Pima County in regard to this emerging issue.

Detection of pharmaceutical contaminants and personal care product residues in the environment received national attention with the publication of a United States Geological Survey (USGS) report entitled *Pharmaceuticals, Hormones, and Other Organic Wastewater Contaminants in U.S. Streams, 1999-2000: A National Reconnaissance*. This report consisted of the comprehensive water quality assessment of 139 streams throughout 30 states across the U.S. Four sample locations were chosen in Arizona; one of those locations was the Santa Cruz River near Cortaro Road in Pima County, Arizona.

Despite increased public awareness of these compounds, there is very little scientific evidence that their presence at the detected low concentrations poses any real risk or results in adverse health impacts for either humans or aquatic life. Studies of biological impacts are inconclusive; however, that does not minimize the concern regarding bioaccumulation in human or aquatic species. RWRD is working in cooperation with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) by providing the Green Valley facility as a research site for EPA's study of PPCPs.