METRO WATER

THE METRO UPDATE

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POMWTP FENCING

The Point of the Mountain Water Treatment Plant (POMWTP) Security Fence Project is an important project to enhance the security at the plant by installing approximately 4,000 linear feet of chain link fence topped with barbed wire, along with an additional 2,500 linear feet of barbed wire on the existing fence.

Two new gates will also be added to further strengthen access control. This project is a crucial step in safeguarding this facility and ensuring that the POMWTP remains secure and operational for years to come.

ULS Sampling and Treatability Testing at LCWTP and POMWTP

The Lab and Operations departments have teamed up to test the treatability of Utah Lake System (ULS) water at both the LCWTP and POMWTP. ULS, a relatively new source for Metro Water, brings water all the way from Strawberry Reservoir. We are currently working with the Division of Drinking Water (DDW) to have ULS approved as a new water source.

In January, a sample was collected from CUWCD's vault at the mouth of Provo Canyon to begin this process. The sample was analyzed to compare the water quality of ULS with that of our existing sources. Jar tests were conducted at both treatment plants to simulate how the ULS water would perform under current treatment processes. The results were promising, showing up to a 25% removal of total organic carbon and turbidity levels reduced to under 0.10 NTU. These initial findings are being finalized and will be submitted to the DDW for final approval. If all goes as planned, we expect to be approved to treat ULS water by this summer, adding a reliable new source to our operations.

Backup Generator at 10-Million-Gallon Reservoir

The I&E group is making strides in the resilience of our infrastructure by installing a new backup generator at the 10 MG Reservoir to aid with the frequent power outages at the reservoir. The initiative was driven by the IT department, which is currently upgrading remote site communications.

With the addition of new equipment, the security system, and remote monitoring tools, our existing backup power systems were only capable of supporting the load for approximately 15 minutes. Recognizing the need for a more robust solution, the team has sourced a propane-powered generator capable of supporting the equipment for up to 24 hours, ensuring continued operation even during extended power outages.

Staff also installed a notification system that will alert operators when a power outage occurs at the site. This new system provides real-time alerts, something previously missing, allowing us to be more proactive in addressing power interruptions and their impact on operations.

Radio System Assessment

The IT department has partnership with SKM to conduct a comprehensive condition assessment of our site-to-site radio system. This project will be crucial in enhancing the reliability and performance of our communication infrastructure. As part of the assessment, SKM will evaluate the radio frequency paths to make sure they are optimized for maximum efficiency.

The project also includes redesigning antenna masts to improve performance and safety, along with implementing physical security upgrades to safeguard critical components. The assessment will also focus on upgrading backup power systems to ensure the radio system remains operational during power outages or other disruptions. These evaluations and improvements make certain our radio infrastructure can consistently support communication to our remote locations. This will not only meet our operational needs but ensure compliance with necessary regulations and standards.

Critical Repairs on Coag Drive

The Maintenance team is currently replacing the sprockets in the sedimentation and flocculation basins – a critical step to keeping the Coag drive running smoothly. The old sprockets have been causing a variety of issues, including skipping, binding, and chain damage, which can disrupt operations if not addressed promptly.

Each sprocket weighs around 200 pounds and requires heavy-duty equipment for removal and installation. While the sprockets are the primary focus, staff has also been carefully inspecting other potential wear points. By addressing these now, they're helping to prevent future downtime and costly repairs, ensuring the Coag drive stays in top condition for longer.