

**Borough of Chatham**

**Annual Report**

**2013**

**Madison-Chatham Joint  
Meeting**

**MADISON-CHATHAM JOINT MEETING  
SUPERINTENDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT  
JANUARY 2014**

**DEAR MEMBERS:**

Happy New Year!!! 2013 has come to an end. I have been able to run the facility in an efficient, cost effective, and environmentally sound manner. The operation of the facility in 2013 has met all permit limits and requirements.

There are no new capital projects for 2014. The capital projects scheduled for 2014, 2015, 2016, and 2017 are included in the NJEIT Facility Improvements 2015 project. The 2013 project for taking the stabilization pond/lagoon out of service is being carried over from 2013. Several other capital projects are ongoing, such as the energy upgrades and pump replacements.

I have attached two pages of the plant operation data summary for 2013. The data reflects the facility's operation efficiency and our permit limits. The facility produced an average of approximately 14,200 cubic feet of methane gas daily in 2013, down from 20,450 cubic feet of methane gas daily in 2012. This is due in part because of the loss of digestion capabilities by having only one digester available due to the seal failure. The methane gas is utilized as fuel for the digester boilers and caterpillar engines. The heat generated from the boilers and engines are used solely for heating the two primary digesters. The engines power centrifugal blowers that are also used to provide diffused air for the aeration tanks, saving electricity by not running the electric blowers.

**STABILIZATION POND/LAGOON CLOSURE**

This is a budgeted capital project. We are in the process of removing sludge from the lagoon. We are doing this in-house, with MCJM equipment, saving the MCJM a significant amount of money for removal and disposal costs. The dredged sludge will be run through our belt filter press. Due to the cold weather, we have temporarily suspended this operation.

**ENERGY UPGRADES**

This is a budgeted capital line item. The initial scope of the work is 100% complete as we received the completion letter from the NJ Office of Clean Energy. We are holding another \$5,000.00 to continue installing energy improvement measures throughout the facility. \$10,000.00 has been reallocated to another capital project.

**PUMP REPLACEMENTS**

This is a budgeted capital project. We are in the process of installing one of the pumps in-house. This will be an ongoing project. We saved a considerable amount of money doing the engineering and installation ourselves. After this pump is installed, we will have just two more pumps to order and install.

**NJEIT FACILITY IMPROVEMENTS 2015**

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The GIS of the trunk line and manholes is 95% complete. Four manholes still need to be found. The inspection of the trunk line and manholes has been completed. The engineer has received the report from the contractor and issued a technical memorandum detailing minor work that needs to be accomplished. His recommendations are to not include it in the NJEIT project. The letter of intent and the environmental planning documents were completed and submitted on October 7, 2013. The loan application and engineering plans and specifications are due on March 3, 2014.

**OTHER ISSUES:**

We counted the **Canadian geese** nests at the facility. As of April 11, 2013, we had 4 nests with a total of 20 eggs, which were addled. Addling includes oiling, shaking, or puncturing. Since we only addle eggs, a goose depredation permit is no longer needed. Instead we just need to register on the state website for addling.

I attended the **NJWEA annual conference** at Bally's in Atlantic City from May 13<sup>th</sup> to the 16<sup>th</sup>. I am on the Program Committee and head moderator of my session, "Wastewater Treatment Operator's Program." I was responsible for finding speakers and scheduling their presentations.

Robert Klein, our **newest operator**, started on June 5, 2013. He learned the operation quickly, due in fact to his previous employment with the Florham Park Sewage Authority 10 years ago. Mr. Klein began his first duty week rotation from July 1, 2013 to July 6, 2013. During that time, he worked a holiday and experienced a power failure call-in. He successfully completed his probationary period and was granted permanent status and assigned the position of Operator-I on January 30, 2014.

On October 10, 2013, I conducted a **tour** of the facility with 11 members of the Great Swamp Watershed Association (GSWA) Stream Team. Another tour was done on October 23, 2014 with students from the Chatham High School.

We suffered a **digester seal failure** in October. A claim has been opened with the JIF. We are currently waiting for a final loss determination from JIF. Due to the cold weather, it is not advisable to repair the seal until the weather warms up. We will also be installing some fail-safe devices to prevent any future occurrences.

The Madison-Chatham Joint Meeting supports any operator that would like to take wastewater classes in preparation for taking any of the **wastewater licenses** available to them. Cristian Campos passed the S-1 license exam, and is currently enrolled in Advanced Wastewater Treatment class with Robert Klein. They are both doing very well. Cristian Campos should be able to sit for the S-2 license exam in June. Robert Klein should be able to sit for the S-1 license exam in June.

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The Joint Meeting, as well as three other treatment facilities, has litigation pending against the NJDEP regarding **seasonal phosphorus limits** vs. year round phosphorus limits. There is still no final word on this matter.

I would like to take this opportunity to invite any interested council members down to the plant for a tour.

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,**

**CHRISTOPHER MANAK  
SUPERINTENDENT**