Operations Update

Plant Operations – Treatment for the month of January continued to do well and the plant is back to seeing suspended solids in the mid-teens.

Power Outage – On January 8th the plant experienced a power outage and the switchgear failed to activate. Checked with Kaukauna Utilities and there was no loss of power to the secondary source. This narrowed it down to the issue being with the switchgear itself.

Put a call in to Elmstar Electric to help check out the switchgear. It happened to be the year that they would be doing switchgear maintenance under our Service Agreement. Elmstar came in to do that maintenance and troubleshoot the switching problem. They found no obvious issues but suspected it was a problem with the Micro AT Source-transfer control.

With that they called S&C, the manufacturer of the gear, to set up a date to come in and troubleshoot the problem. S&C came in on February 6th to check the gear out; they did have discussions with Elmstar prior to coming in so they brought some parts with them. To make a long story short it ended up that there was a bad transfer relay in the Micro AT source transfer control unit (the brains of the switch gear).

At no time did it jeopardize the treatment. Provisions were made to the switchgear in the event of a power fail on our primary source after hours.

ACTI-FLO Polymer Trial – Recently had Fremont Water Solutions come in and bench test polymer. They had come up with one that works just as well as our existing polymer. They then supplied us with 10 gallons of polymer to actually test in the ACTI-FLO and it did well in the actual test also. I will be looking at getting a 55 gallon drum of their polymer to run a several day test on it. Costwise there is not much difference than our existing polymer but wanted something to fall back on in case something would happen with our current supplier. At budget time I will revisit both suppliers to get quotes.

Maintenance Update

Bio-Filter – This was a project planned for the first quarter of 2018. Has been scheduled for the week of February 12th. Old media will be removed and hauled away, new stone and wood media to be delivered, and should be back in service by the end of the week.

Turbine Pump #2 – It is scheduled for removal and shipping on February 14th. The quote for rebuild of this pump came in at $40,970.00.

Manhole #3 Area Velocity Flow Meter –Mulcahy Shaw came in and set up their demo laser flow meter. When they were just about to wrap things up with the installation and programming the laser went out on their demo unit. Their planning to come in with a replacement.

Meter Station #1 Flow Meter – Due to the importance of this flow meter and it not staying calibrated, I called TVG Automation to quote a new flow meter. That quote came in at $3316.00. The new meter was installed on January 22nd then checked a week later and was still in calibration.

ACTI-FLO Polymer feed skid VFD drives – On January 8th when the plant experienced the power outage it caused 5 small VFD drives on the polymer feed skids to fail, primarily due to age. They would not power up after the outage. The plant had to manually deliver polymer to the ACTI-Flo trains until new drives arrived. Ordered the drives in the morning and received them in the afternoon. We were able to get skids back up and running that day. There was an SOP written up for this type of scenario and enabled the plant to continue delivering polymer to the ACTI-FLO system.

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