

WRF1 Biosolids Dryer Update

July 1, 2020



Dryer

- → Started operation in 2005
- → One of the first in California
- → Designed to produce biosolid pellets
- → Produces approx. 2,000 tons annually
- → Process is automated; but still requires operator attention through SCADA and physical facility inspection
- → Shutdown for preventive maintenance twice a year and periodically for repairs



Incident

- → On January 10, 2020, at approximately 3:50 PM there was an explosion at the biosolids dryer
- → No injuries to employees or the public
- → Dryer has been inoperable due to the damage



Actions

- → DWP conducted a forensics investigation and root cause analysis using third party
- → City's insurance carrier, AIG, conducted a concurrent investigation
- Established and agreed on the cost estimate and list of components that require replacement, as well as safety upgrades required by updates to standards from NFPA



Finding

→ Insufficient purge time between start up attempts

→ AIG concurred with this analysis







Next Steps

- → Issue RFP for design/build
- → Complete construction
- → Startup: Automation integration, training, testing and trials
- → Restart Operations
- → Expect project completion in 18 24 months



QUESTIONS?





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