

Meeting Date: July 15, 2024
Department: Engineering & Public Works
Report No.: EPW-2024-51
Submitted by: Paul Zuberbuhler, Manager of Environmental Services
Approved by: Trisha McKibbin, Chief Administrative Officer

SUBJECT: Mt Brydges Waste Water Treatment Facility Update - Sand

RECOMMENDATION: THAT: Council receive the Report EPW 2024-51 Mt, Brydges Waste Water Treatment Facility Update – Sand for information.

BACKGROUND:

On April 16, 2024 the Mt. Brydges Main Pumping Station was unable to pump wastewater to the Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF). Operations Staff arranged for trucking to prevent any backups and worked on troubleshooting the problem. Through the troubleshooting process, it was found that the splitter box at the Mt Brydges WWTF had become plugged with sand. This blockage was cleared and regular operations were resumed. During the down time, Staff were able to ensure that no back up of wastewater occurred.

During the May 21, 2024 Council Meeting Council requested a report back on the event

Moved By: Brian Derbyshire

Seconded by: Mike McGuire

THAT: staff provide a report regarding the recent build-up of sand and grit in the headworks of the Mount Brydges Waste Water Treatment Plant, and further;

THAT: the report include what, if any, routine maintenance is being done to prevent this problem from happening again.

Result: Carried

COMMENTS:

Operations Staff have confirmed that the sand in the splitter box appears to be coming from the sand filters. Actions that have been taken are:

- 1) Reviewed operations of the filters, and
- 2) Reach out to the original equipment Supplier

From feedback received from the Supplier and findings of the Operations Staff, the following actions have been taken:

- Adjustment of flow rates through the filters;
- Review of the weir levels in the filters to ensure they were not allowing sand to pass;
- Installation of temporary covers on each of the filter's reject water box to reduce the sand to get into the reject water pit;
- Increase of the cleaning frequency of the splitter box to remove any accumulation/build up.

There have not been any further blockages since the event. Operations Staff will continue to monitor the operation of the filters and make adjustments as needed.

CONSULTATION:

The preparation of this report and recommendation was completed in consultation with:

- Operations Staff
- Chief Administrative Officer
- Napier Reid (Original Equipment Supplier)

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

There are no financial impacts related to writing this report. Costs for the permanent covers will be paid from the Operating Budget.

STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT:

This matter is in accord with the following strategic priorities:

Local Infrastructure and Capital Investment: Households and businesses in Strathroy-Caradoc will be supported by reliable, financially responsible, and well-maintained infrastructure networks.

ATTACHMENTS:

None