

SOUTH DAVIS SEWER DISTRICT FEE INCREASE COMMENTS

The Utah Division of Water Quality has made a rule requiring phosphorus removal from all municipal wastewater treatment plant discharges. This rule requires plants to reduce phosphorus in its discharge to 1 part per million by 2020. It is anticipated that there will be an additional rule limiting nitrogen within 10 years.

New permits were issued for the District's two treatment plants, effective March 1, 2017. Lower limits for nitrogen were set at both plants effective immediately. We are not currently meeting these limits consistently. Meeting these limits requires both plants provide additional treatment.

The District has selected an innovative, biological treatment process to remove phosphorus and nitrogen. This process uses naturally occurring algae. An important benefit of this process is that the algae produced will be harvested and sold to generate revenue to help offset the cost of the project. Because of the importance of nutrient removal and to help demonstrate the efficiency of this technology for other treatment plants in the Utah, the Utah Division of Water Quality has granted the District a low interest (0.55%) loan to finance the Project.

Treatment plants plan for the next 20-years of service. We have reviewed the condition and performance of the treatment plants, made population and wastewater flow projections and studied regulatory requirements. From this review, the District has determined rehabilitation and expansion needs. The District has had the necessary engineering done to provide plans for the nutrient removal facilities and treatment plant rehabilitation.

The District's current \$5 per month sewer service fee, plus the District's property tax for an average single-family dwelling is \$8.03. We believe this is the lowest in the State. We are \$7.62 per month less than the next lowest sewer service rate and \$27.16 less than the Wasatch Front Average sewer service rate of \$35.19 per month. The District has not raised rates for 30-years. The District's property tax rate has been reduced 72% over the same 30-years. The District is committed to providing the best service to District residents for the least possible cost while meeting all environmental compliance responsibilities.