



## Idaho Department of Environmental Quality Pollution Prevention Champion

Veolia Water North America  
Burley, Idaho  
2008

### Environmental Commitment

Veolia Water North America provides water services for local and federal governments and business and industry. The company has formed a public/private partnership with the City of Burley, Idaho to operate and maintain the city's wastewater treatment facilities. Veolia provides all of the operations and maintenance services for Burley's municipal wastewater and industrial wastewater facilities as **well as management for the city's industrial pre-treatment** program. Veolia is preventing pollution in Burley through wastewater reuse, energy efficiency, waste reduction, and community involvement.

### Pollution Prevention Success

#### Water Reuse

When starting the new municipal wastewater facility in Burley, Veolia Water North America was able to produce Class A reuse water. The state of Idaho designates Class A reuse water as municipal reclaimed wastewater verified to contain extremely low levels of potential disease-causing organisms. It is therefore suitable for reclaimed water supply to residential properties for non-potable uses (not for human consumption) such as garden/lawn watering and toilet flushing. Currently the facility reuses the Class A water in-house for seal water, wash water, and other uses throughout the facility. As a result, the facility went from averaging more than 15 NPDES1 violations a month to zero violations.

#### Energy Efficiency

The municipal wastewater facility is run on variable frequency drives (VFDs), which are programmable and allow the electrical equipment throughout the facility to be run in optimal conditions, thus reducing electrical consumption. VFDs allow the frequency of the electrical power that runs motors to be varied, depending on need.

One application of VFDs in the facility involves blowers. At the facility, wastewater moves through oxidation ditches, where oxygen is added to the water by blowers and aerobic bacteria break down organic matter. Blowers at the oxidation ditches run at very low speeds during the day and are shut down late in the evening to conserve energy. In the morning, the blowers begin delivering the needed air to the oxidation ditches and run at low speeds to keep the microbiology working while minimizing energy use.

#### Waste and Natural Gas Reduction

Child Safe Transportation transports 150 children daily, Monday through Friday, to and from school and to medical Sanitary Services Co. was the first entity in the state of Idaho to use biodiesel in service vehicles. B20 fuel (20% vegetable oil, 80% diesel fuel) is used in its fleet of trash and recycling trucks that service the residential areas of Meridian, Idaho, in an effort to reduce diesel emission exposure to families and children. B20 fuel is a cleaner-burning alternative to regular diesel fuel. Emissions of carbon dioxide, sulfur oxides, hydrocarbons, and particulates are reduced

by burning B20. The vegetable oil portion of the fuel is typically made from refined soybean oil, thus supporting American farmers and reducing dependence upon foreign oil imports. Additionally, it is a renewable resource, unlike fossil fuels. Since April of 2002, Sanitary Services Co. has burned more than 81,675 gallons of the fuel.

## Community Involvement

Veolia Water North America has helped sponsor Earth Day activities, offers facility tours, and promotes environmental education at local schools to teach responsible practices at home to minimize the discharge of pollutants.

## For More Information

For more information visit Veolia Water North Americas' website at [www.veoliawaterna.com](http://www.veoliawaterna.com).

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