

**A. Identification and Coding Information** 2. Date: October 1, 2013 7. Pre PDF Pg.No.: 8. Req. Adeg. Pub. Fac.

1. Project Number	Agency Number	Update Code
153802	S-103.02	Add

3. Project Name: Anaerobic Digestion/Combined Heat & Power  
 4. Program: Sanitation 6. Planning Area: Bi-County

5. Agency: **WSSC**

**B. Expenditure Schedule (000's)**

Cost Elements	(8) Total	(9) Thru FY '13	(10) Estimate FY '14	(11) Total 6 Years	(12) Year 1 FY '15	(13) Year 2 FY '16	(14) Year 3 FY '17	(15) Year 4 FY '18	(16) Year 5 FY '19	(17) Year 6 FY '20	(18) Beyond 6 Years
Planning, Design & Supervision	23,878	1,218	4,532	18,128	6,798	618	3,708	3,708	3,296		
Land											
Site Improvements & Utilities											
Construction	113,300			113,300		6,180	37,080	37,080	32,960		
Other	6,802		228	6,574	340	340	2,040	2,040	1,814		
<b>Total</b>	<b>143,980</b>	<b>1,218</b>	<b>4,760</b>	<b>138,002</b>	<b>7,138</b>	<b>7,138</b>	<b>42,828</b>	<b>42,828</b>	<b>38,070</b>		

**C. Funding Schedule (000's)**

WSSC Bonds	72,028	647	2,380	69,001	3,569	3,569	21,414	21,414	19,035		
Federal Aid	71,952	571	2,380	69,001	3,569	3,569	21,414	21,414	19,035		

**D. Description & Justification**

**DESCRIPTION**

This project will develop a comprehensive program for the engineering, design, construction, maintenance, and monitoring and verification necessary to add sustainable energy equipment and systems to produce biogas at a location(s) to be determined. The program will provide a reduction in energy and energy-related costs (electricity, natural gas, transportation, and disposal of biosolids) which may in part be guaranteed by the contractor. The potential guaranteed reduction component includes annual avoided energy costs as well as operations and maintenance, chemicals, and biosolids transportation and disposal costs. The program will enhance existing operating conditions and reliability while continuing to meet all permit requirements, and ensure a continued commitment to environmental stewardship at WSSC sites. The scope of work will include, but is not limited to, the addition of anaerobic digestion equipment, thermal hydrolysis pretreatment equipment, gas cleaning systems, hydrogen sulfide and siloxane removal, tanks, piping, valves, pumps, sludge dewatering/thickening equipment, grit removal, effluent disinfection systems, instrumentation, flow metering, power measurement, and combined heat and power generation systems.

In March 2009, the WSSC received approval for a federal Department of Energy grant of \$570,900 for the feasibility study/conceptual design phase. On June 16, 2010, the WSSC awarded the study contract to AECOM Technical Services, Inc., of Laurel, Maryland. The study was completed in December 2011, and the Thermal Hydrolysis/Mesophilic Anaerobic Digestion/Combined Heat & Power facility was recommended to be constructed and was presented to the Commission in April 2012. The WSSC will continue to pursue federal capital funding as a source of cost sharing as the project develops.

**JUSTIFICATION**

**Plans & Studies**

Appel Consultants, Urban Waste Grease Resource Assessment-NREL (November 1998); Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Opportunities For and Benefits Of Combined Heat and Power at Wastewater Treatment Facilities (December 2006); Brown & Caldwell, Anaerobic Digestion and Electric Generation Options for WSSC (November 2007); Metcalf & Eddy, WSSC Sludge Digestion Study for Piscataway and Seneca (December 2007); Black & Veatch, WSSC Digester Scope and Analysis (December 2007); JMT, Prince George's County Septage (FOG) Discharge Facility Study (February 2008); JMT, Western Research Institute (WRI) Biogas Feasibility Study Scope of Work - WSSC (April 2008); JMT, Montgomery County Septage (FOG) Discharge Facility Study (January 2010); Facility Plan for the Rock Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant (January 2010); AECOM Technical Services, Inc., Anaerobic Digestion/Combined Heat & Power Study (December 2011).

**E. Annual Operating Budget Impact (000's)**

Program Costs	Staff	FY of Impact
Facility Costs	Other	
	Maintenance	
	Debt Service	3425
Total Costs		3425
Impact on Water or Sewer Rate		8¢

**F. Approval and Expenditure Data (000's)**

Date First in Capital Program	FY 15
Date First Approved	FY 10
Initial Cost Estimate	345
Cost Estimate Last FY	146,399
Present Cost Estimate	143,980
Approved Request, Last FY	4,840
Total Expenditures & Encumbrances	1,218
Approval Request FY 15	7,138
Supplemental Approval Request Current FY (14)	

**G. Status Information**

Land Status: No land or R/W required  
 % Project Completion: P-99%  
 Est. Completion Date: (See "Specific Data" for details)

**H. Map** Map Reference Code:

**MAP NOT AVAILABLE**

**D. DESCRIPTION & JUSTIFICATION (CONT.)**

Agency Number: S - 103.02

Project Name: Anaerobic Digestion/Combined Heat & Power

**Specific Data**

The EPA is urging wastewater utilities to utilize this commercially available technology (anaerobic digestion) to produce power at a cost below retail electricity, displace purchased fuels for thermal needs, produce renewable fuel for green power programs, enhance power reliability for the wastewater treatment plant to prevent sanitary sewer overflows, reduce biosolids production and improve the health of the Chesapeake Bay, and to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) and other air pollutants. In April 2009, the EPA announced that greenhouse gases contributed to air pollution that may endanger public health or welfare, and began proceedings to regulate CO2 under the Clean Air Act.

Based on AECOM's feasibility study work as of May 2011, the capital cost (detail design + construction) estimate for a regional/centralized plant at a location to be determined based on a Thermal Hydrolysis/Mesophilic Anaerobic Digestion/Combined Heat & Power (TH/MAD/CHP) process supplemented by restaurant grease fuel design is \$110 million, with a 36 month construction period. The environmental benefits and expected outcomes determined from the feasibility study are estimated as follows:

1. Recover 2-3 MW of renewable energy from biomass
2. Reduce Greenhouse Gas production by 11,800 tons/year
3. Reduce biosolids output by more than 50,500 tons/year
4. Reduce lime demand by 4,100 tons/year
5. Reduce nutrient load to the Chesapeake Bay
6. Reduce 5 million gallons/year of grease discharge to sewers
7. Produce Class A Biosolids

The economic benefits determined from the feasibility study are estimated as follows:

1. Recover more than \$1.5 million of renewable energy costs/year
2. Reduce biosolids disposal costs by ~\$1.7 million/year
3. Reduce chemical costs by ~\$400,000/year
4. Hedge against rising costs of power, fuel, and chemicals
5. Net Payback of 15 to 18 years (net based on capital cost of TH/MAD/CHP minus capital cost of lime stabilization upgrade of WSSC WWTP facilities through 2030) (Any Federal Aid received would shorten the payback period.)

**Cost Change**

Order of Magnitude cost estimates were adjusted for inflation and to reflect the reduction in the "Other" calculated cost percentage from 10% to 5%.

**STATUS** Planning

**OTHER**

The project scope has remained the same. Now that the feasibility study has been completed, the Commission has a defined scope, capital cost, and energy and energy-related cost savings estimates to be able to proceed with the detailed design and construction of the anaerobic digestion, biomass, and combined heat and power generation system facilities.

The Montgomery and Prince George's Councils must be briefed on the project and approve by resolution before the project can move into design.

It is envisioned that either the entire project, or only portions of the project that include the thermal hydrolysis, anaerobic digestion or combined heat and power, include a guarantee by the contractor that the capital cost will be paid back 100% from energy and energy-related cost savings with the payback period not exceeding 15 years. The energy savings for other completed WSSC Energy Performance projects have surpassed the contracts' guaranteed amount every year of the monitoring and verification period. Any Federal Aid received would shorten the payback period. Previous expenditures reflect the planning phase of this project which was completed under the Information Only project A-103.01, Anaerobic Digestion/Combined Heat & Power.

**COORDINATION**

Montgomery County Government, Prince George's County Government, Maryland-National Capital Park & Planning Commission (Mandatory Referral Process), Montgomery County Department of Environmental Protection, Maryland Department of the Environment and WSSC Project S-96.14, Piscataway WWTP Facility Upgrades.

**NOTE** This project supports 100% System Improvement.