Highlights from:

The 1999 Clean Bay Strategy Report (South Bay Watershed Activities)

1. Mercury Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Participation Plan

On June 17, 1998, the Regional Board reissued NPDES permits for the three South Bay POTW dischargers (San Jose/Santa Clara, Sunnyvale and Palo Alto). All these permits contain a specific provision for mercury TMDL participation:

"... participation with the Regional Board and other South Bay Dischargers in identifying cross media watershed-wide sources of mercury impacting the receiving water and potential control measures,...".

The permits also require the TMDL development process to include

"...development of site specific objectives and/or a wasteload allocation and mass effluent limits for mercury."

The Plant has achieved compliance with its 12 parts-per-trillion (ppt) mercury limit since March 1996, averaging just 3 ppt of total mercury.

In November 1998, the Plant submitted a Mercury Participation Plan that included the following activities:

1. Continue low level effluent monitoring for mercury; and
2. Participate in the Regional Board's region-wide mercury phased TMDL investigation.

This Mercury Participation Plan advocated coordinating participation in the Regional Board's South Bay mercury program with the Santa Clara Basin Watershed Management Initiative. In addition, the Plant also agreed to provide adequate resources for its participation in the development of a region-wide mercury strategy and any resulting phased TMDL studies, as appropriate.

On January 13, 1999, the Regional Board accepted the Plant's commitment to participate in their Mercury TMDL process.

2. Pollutant Loading from Permitted Industry

The figures below illustrate the permitted industrial copper, nickel, and flow loadings to the Plant for 1997, 1998, and January through June, 1999. This information was extracted from the current pretreatment program database; flow and loading values may change slightly in the future, as the data is analyzed further.

As of June 1999, Industrial Partnerships, the Flow Audit Study Program, and other industrial efforts have contributed to significant reductions in flow from permitted industrial users; flow is down by 1.60 mgd from the 1998 daily average. There have also been 1.63 pounds per day (ppd) additional reductions in copper and 1.38 ppd nickel reduction.

Under the current NPDES permit provisions, the Plant has to maintain industrial copper and nickel loading at or below 1997 levels. We will continue to work with Dischargers to stay below this baseline. If you have any questions about the City's pollution prevention/flow reduction programs, ask your Source Control Inspector for more information.

…….insert charts here…….

NOTE:

Regulated average dry weather effluent flow for the Plant is 120 MGD. Average daily flows from the Plant, as of August 1999, are.....

approximately 118.5 MGD.

So, participate in the "Slow the Flow" Campaign and help us help the Plant and the Bay!

3. The Future of Water Recycling in the South Bay Begins Taking Shape

Phase 2 and Master Plan documents are now being completed to address the immediate and long-term future of South Bay Water Recycling (SBWR). SBWR, a program created to deliver recycled water to the South Bay area, will begin construction of a southern extension to its existing 60-mile pipeline by January 31, 2001. A number of Phase 2 alignments are currently being evaluated. The program goals are to:

1. Define a Master Plan for the non-potable distribution system's service area;
2. Select appropriate facilities compatible with the long-term strategies to increase recycled water delivery to 30 million gallons per day (mgd) by 2005; and
3. Identify long-term strategies for up to 100 mgd of reuse by 2020.

The SBWR Phase 2 program is jointly sponsored by the cities and agencies discharging to the Plant, and the Santa Clara Valley Water District (Water District). In addition, both short- and long-term projects are being coordinated with the Bay Area Regional Water Recycling Program to ensure that the selected projects provide maximum benefit to the community as a whole.

The Program team is exploring the feasibility of expanding the SBWR system to deliver recycled water to additional customers in the existing service area and Coyote Valley, industrial customers in Alameda County, and agricultural customers in San Benito and Monterey counties. In addition, a number of technical workshops have been held to assess the potential for potable reuse through groundwater recharge and reservoir augmentation.

To provide guidance on community values and concerns, a survey was conducted tributary-wide, a Stakeholder's Advisory committee was convened in March 1999, and a series of open meetings were held in June 1999 for public participation. The Stakeholder Advisory committee is comprised of a mix of civic leaders, including top-level representatives from the San Jose Unified School District, the Santa Clara County Medical Association, the San Jose/Silicon Valley Chamber of Commerce, and environmental, community, landscape and farming associations.

The Stakeholder Advisory committee and general public identified a number of issues for study and development related to long-term strategies, including:

- Public acceptance of potable reuse;
- Long-term health and environmental effects of water recycling, and
- The relationship between recycling, conservation and growth.

Upon completion, these studies and discussions will result in the selection of specific projects to be implemented during the Phase 2 time frame and a recommendation for the long-term strategies that best meet the water and recycled water needs of the South Bay community.

Use of SBWR at California Paperboard

Alec Hurd, Production Manager
California Paperboard Corp.

California Paperboard has been producing 100% Recycled Paperboard in Santa Clara for 25 years.

Beginning in November 1998, we began running trials using South Bay Water Recycling water, and now use up to 60,000 gallons per day of SBWR water. This translates to approximately 15% of our total fresh water consumption.

Use of SBWR is a component of our cooling towers, seal waters, and process make-up waters. As a margin of insurance for our process, we treat the incoming SBWR water with a bromine-based microbiocide. This is the same product we have used to treat our well water prior to use. After more than six months, we have found no negative impacts from using SBWR.

California Paperboard is happy to help reduce the discharge from the San Jose / Santa Clara Water Pollution Control Plant to the Bay.

For a copy of the Clean Bay Strategy Report, and / or the Semiannual Report, call your Source Control Inspector. The Clean Bay Strategy Report can also be downloaded from our website:

www.ci.san-jose.ca.us/esd

Building on Success.....

Slow the Flow Returns

The Water Efficiency Program has again partnered with the Silicon Valley Manufacturing Group, the San Jose/Silicon Valley Chamber of Commerce, and the Santa Clara Valley Water District to educate people that live and work in the South Bay about the impact their indoor water use has on the environment and economy, and how they can help protect our fragile South Bay ecosystem.

Last year's campaign was one of the building blocks that led to the installation of more than 30,000 Ultra Low Flush Toilets (ULFTs) in the Plant service area during the dry weather season. This year, more than 100 Silicon Valley companies are expected to join the campaign to promote water conservation.

Once again, the campaign will include posters and informational material for participating businesses to share with their employees. Additionally, program representatives will attend various company events to speak directly with employees as residents of the community. The intent is to inform residents of the many ways they can help save water.

We'll continue to emphasize the replacement of older toilets with Ultra Low Flush models. Installation of ULFTs is the single best action residents can take to reduce the amount of water used in homes. Moreover, the well-known and very successful ULFT Rebate Program from the Water District is coming to a close….. for good.

Future efforts are slated to focus on specific communities.[1]

Now through October 31st, most South Bay residents can take advantage of this **final chance to get up to $100 per toilet** for the installation of ULFTs. **After this fall, the toilet rebate program will no longer be offered.**

Your participation in the effort to Slow the Flow and Save the Bay is very important!

If your company is interested in participating, call Polly Parenti at (408) 277-8418. For information on the campaign and on the ULFT Rebate Program, call our hotline at (408) 277-2600 or check out our website at:

www.slowtheflow.com.

[1] *So this is the last chance for general audiences to take advantage of this special deal!*

Training Opportunities

Industrial User (IU) Academy Update

The IU Academy class, "Pretreatment Program for Permitted Industrial Users", will be offered on October 14 & 15, 1999. This is a 2-day class and only 20 spaces are available. Flyers with details on the class will be mailed out in September.

If you have any questions, contact Cheryl Dayley at (408) 945-3030.

...A selection of conferences...

♦ EPA / WEF Basic Pretreatment Courses:
September 20 - 21, 1999, Portland, Oregon
September 23 - 24, 1999, Laughlin, Nevada
February, 2000 (at CWEA/I&HWC Conference)
For more information on these workshops, call (800) 666-0206, OR contact Pat Nelson at (602) 877 - 2340.

♦ 1999 Water Resources Conference: AWWA, September 26 - 29, Norfolk, Virginia. For more information, call (703) 684 - 2471 OR check:

confinfo@wef.org

♦ AWWA/WEF Water Reuse 2000, January 30 - February 2, 2000, in San Antonio, Texas. For more information, call (703) 684 - 2471 OR check:

confinfo@wef.org

♦ CWEA Annual Conference, April 17 - 19, 2000, Sacramento, California. For more information, contact Dan Wilson at (916) 875 - 9119.