



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY AND OPERATIONS COMMITTEE
APRIL 17TH, 2025
(via Microsoft Teams)**

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

1. Sarah Motsch, Chairperson, Alternate, Fairfax County
2. Howard Gibbs, Vice-Chairperson, Principal, District of Columbia
3. Richard Jackson, Principal, District of Columbia

DC WATER STAFF PRESENT

1. Marc Battle, Chief Legal Officer and EVP, Government and Legal Affairs
2. Michelle Rhodd, Secretary to the Board
3. Kirsten B. Williams, Chief Administration Officer, and EVP
4. Matthew Brown, Chief Finance Officer and EVP, Finance, Procurement, Compliance
5. Jeffrey Thompson, Chief Operating Officer and EVP

The Environmental Quality and Operations Committee meeting was called to order by Sarah Motsch, Chairperson at 9:30 AM. The meeting was held via Microsoft Teams. Michelle Rhodd, Secretary to the Board called the roll.

I. BPAWTP Performance Update

Nicholas Passarelli, Vice President, Wastewater Operations, presented a summary of the performance of Blue Plains Advanced Wastewater Treatment Plant (BPAWTP) for March 2025. Specific details of the presentation can be found on pages 3 and 4 of the Environmental Quality and Operations Committee meeting package from April 17, 2025. The average flow through to complete treatment was 266 million gallons per day (MGD) for month, and the peak daily flow was 338 MGD, which occurred on March 5, 2025. All weekly and monthly NPDES permit requirements were met for March 2025.

Mr. Passarelli provided an update on the performance of the Anacostia tunnel system and wet weather treatment, noting that 153 million gallons were captured in the tunnel

with no combined sewer overflows (CSOs) during the month. March saw 2.5 inches of rainfall.

The update also included energy statistics. 25% of the electricity used at BPAWTP was generated onsite, with the Combined Heat and Power (CHP) facility producing an average of 6.3 megawatts (MW) and the solar system contributing 0.68 MW on average. The total electrical consumption at BPAWTP was 28.8 MW, of which 21.9 MW were purchased from PEPCO. Cumulative power savings for FY2025 (through December) totaled \$1,034,800 due to onsite generation.

Regarding biosolids processing and Bloom production, Mr. Passarelli reported that 11,479 wet tons of biosolids were produced in March 2025. Of this, approximately 9,480 tons were sold as Class A biosolids under the Blue Drop Bloom program, bringing the fiscal year-to-date total to 23,396 tons, against a goal of 70,000 tons. The remaining 1,999 tons were managed through land application contracts.

II. Quarterly Safety Report Update

Ecuador Gutierrez II, Director of Safety, presented the FY2025 second quarter safety performance update for DC Water. Detailed information can be found on pages 5 to 8 of the Environmental Quality and Operations Committee meeting package dated April 17, 2025.

Mr. Gutierrez highlighted the continued progress of DC Water's safety performance, focusing on Behavior-Based Safety (BBS) as a core strategy for reducing injuries. Over the past three years, DC Water has observed consistent reductions in both lost time incidents and recordable injuries across its operations.

As part of FY2025 initiatives, Mr. Gutierrez introduced a new safety culture campaign titled "Change One Thing". The campaign encourages employees to proactively address one unsafe condition or behavior per day—whether in the field or office environment. Participation is tracked via the safety platform, where individuals are recognized and awarded safety pins. At year-end, MVP awards will be given to the most recognized employee and the most active nominator.

Key metrics presented include:

- DC Water Recordable Incident Rate: Below the target of 5.4
- DC Water Lost Time Incident Rate: Below the target of 2.1
- Contractor Recordable Incident Rate: Targeted at <2.4, with rates stabilizing after an initial uptick earlier in the fiscal year
- Contractor Lost Time Incident Rate: Maintained below the target of 1.0

Mr. Gutierrez emphasized that these rates are calculated using OSHA's standardized formula based on 200,000 labor hours. He also noted enhanced collaboration with contractors to improve incident tracking and corrective actions.

Committee Chair Sarah Motsch inquired about the mechanics of the "Change One Thing" program, to which Mr. Gutierrez elaborated on the recognition system, employee engagement goals, and the safety leadership culture it aims to build across the organization.

III. Fleet Management FY25 Metrics Update

Nija Ali, Director of Fleet Management, presented an update on the new performance metrics implemented for Fiscal Year 2025 in response to the outsourcing of fleet repair and maintenance services that began in March 2023. Full details are available on pages 9 to 12 of the Environmental Quality and Operations Committee meeting package dated April 17, 2025.

Ms. Ali explained that the revised key performance indicators (KPIs) are designed to monitor contract compliance, technician productivity, and priority vehicle availability, ensuring accountability from DC Water's third-party maintenance provider.

Three primary metrics were introduced:

- Metric 1: Priority 1 Vehicle Availability
 - In March 2025, 87% of Priority 1 vehicles were available.
 - The target for this metric is 90%, ensuring high-availability of mission-critical vehicles.
- Metric 2: P1 Resource Assignment
 - 65% of technician hours were allocated to servicing Priority 1 vehicles.
 - Performance was within the acceptable threshold of 50–90%, helping minimize downtime for essential units.
- Metric 3: Productivity
 - 76% of technician hours were classified as productive wrench-turning time.
 - The target is 81%, which allows for breaks and administrative tasks while maximizing operational efficiency.

Committee member Howard Gibbs asked about DC Water's ability to influence contractor performance. Ms. Ali clarified that DC Water maintains direct oversight, with managers co-located at the maintenance facility and empowered to intervene promptly.

Ms. Ali noted that real-time monitoring through the FleetWave management system allows staff to track performance, address delays, and reassign technicians on-site as

needed. Weekly meetings with the contractor are conducted to review progress and implement corrective actions.

IV. Action Items

Joint Use

1. Contract No. 250140 – Emergency Master Services Agreement for Potomac Interceptor Program – Garney Companies Inc.

Dr. Moussa Wone, Vice President, Engineering and Clean Rivers, and Mr. Kevin Bellamy, Director of Procurement, Capital Programs, jointly presented an emergency procurement action item to authorize a \$45 million Master Services Agreement (MSA) with Garney Companies, Inc. for rehabilitation of the Potomac Interceptor (PI). Details can be found on pages 19 to 24 of the meeting package.

Dr. Wone described the criticality of the project, noting that the PI conveys wastewater from Fairfax, Loudoun, and Montgomery Counties to Blue Plains. The portfolio was recently transferred to the Clean Rivers team due to their collaborative delivery expertise and experience. Dr. Wone explained to the committee the criticality of the PI for the DC Water's IMA Partners. He noted that adding a contractor to the team will help address potential emergencies while the project's planning is ongoing. He listed the risks that DC Water could face should the PI experience operational failures. Those risks include permit violations and structural collapse (e.g., lessons learned from Manhole 31). The cost-sharing breakdown for this program is as follows:

- WSSC: 29%
- Fairfax County: 44%
- Loudoun County: 27%

To address engineering concerns, Mr. Bellamy recommended an emergency procurement approach authorized under DC Water Procurement Regulation Sections 5332.5 and 5332.6. He noted that the Progressive Design Build (PDB) model supports early contractor involvement, faster mobilization, Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) transparency, and the ability to terminate if commercial terms become unacceptable.

No questions were raised; the Committee supported the approval recommendation.

2. **Contract No. 10314 – Scaffolding Rental, Erection, and Dismantling – East Coast Rigging**
3. **Contract No. 10331 – Fleet Maintenance and Repair Services – First Vehicle Services, Inc**

Non-Joint Use

1. **Contract No. 220040–Sanitary Sewer Lateral Replacement Contract – Anchor Construction Corporation**
2. **Contract No. 220110 – Water Infrastructure Rehabilitation & Replacement Contract FY23-FY25 – Capitol Paving of DC Inc.**

V. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:01am.