

April 7, 2004

Dear Northwest Cary Neighbor:

We're sending you this letter as a follow up to a previous letter regarding the Town of Cary's North Water Reclamation Facility (NCWRF). We want to take this opportunity to briefly explain the steps we have taken to improve the odor emitted from the NCWRF and what we will be doing in the future.

Near-Term Solutions

The progress to reduce sludge inventory at the plant is completed. Staff have processed and permanently removed from the site all the sludge in the offending broken digester. This digester is permanently out of service. In addition, the total plant inventory of sludge has been reduced from 3.5 million gallons to .675 million gallons. Less sludge stored under aeration will result in less odor released from the site.

Real-Time Sludge Processing and Disposal

Plant staff is now removing sludge from the site almost as soon as it is generated in the treatment process. The sludge is dewatered using state-of-the-art equipment. No longer will the Town be dependent on dry farm fields for disposal of sludge. The process will operate regardless of weather or farmland availability.

Odor Identification and Abatement Study

Because odor identification and control is a complex science, we will be hiring experts in that field to perform a comprehensive study. This study has been moved up to begin as soon as a firm can be hired and directed to begin work. The firm's recommendations will be evaluated and included in the capital spending plan beginning July, 2004.

Biosolids Dryer Project

The Biosolids Dryer Project (BDP) has been under construction since March 2, 2004. Once completed in August 2005, the BDP will process all sludge from the NCWRF. The BDP will allow staff to remove sludge processing and disposal activities from the NCWRF.

Please be assured that we are working expeditiously to resolve odor in the short and long term at the NCWRF. Please visit the special Odor Control Web page at <http://www.townofcary.org/aboutcary/odor.htm> . There you will find information about progress regarding odor control.

Thanks in advance for taking the time to learn about the situation and for your continued support. We are committed to keeping Cary the greatest place to live and work in North Carolina.

Sincerely,



Robert P. Bonné
Utilities Director

