

Getting it Hot and Doing It Fast:

Lessons Learned from Upgrading a Fluidized Bed Incinerator in Manchester, NH

Matt Formica – AECOM
Fred McNeill – City of Manchester, EPD



**NEBRA/NEWEA North East Residuals &
Biosolids Conference & Exhibit, Oct. 29, 2013
Concord, NH**

Presentation Outline

- Background
- Project Initial Needs
- Project Development
- Design / Construction
- Project Benefits
- Lessons Learned



Background – Project Location

- Manchester, NH
- Largest City in NE North of Boston
- Population 107,000
- 375 miles of sewer (50% combined)
- 10 Pump Stations
- WWTF (34 mgd) Serves:
 - Manchester
 - Goffstown
 - Londonderry
 - Bedford



Background – Sludge Incineration

- WWTP Sludge Disposal - Incineration
- Single Fluidized Bed Incinerator (FBI) Replaced Two Multiple Hearth Incinerators 1994
- No Backup Incinerator – Off Site Disposal
- FBI Size
 - 3,500 lbs/hr, dry
 - 15,910 lbs/hr, wet @ 22%
- FBI - Batch Burning Operation
 - 2 to 3 days on 2 to 3 days off



FBI Operations and Issues

- FBI - Air Distribution System Used to Fluidize Bed 6' Bed of Sand
 - Two blowers (350 hp and 400 hp)
 - Large duct work
 - Interior air piping
 - “Boat” style air diffusers
- Piping and Diffusers were Failing
 - Corrosion
 - Erosion
 - Heat damage
 - Ten years old



Project Needs Identified Through Facilities Plan

- 2004 WWTP Facility Plan Awarded to AECOM
- 2005 Letter Report Recommended Rehabilitation Measures
 - Change to new pipe tuyere system
 - Refractory lined 80" duct repairs
 - Shell patch repairs/replacement
 - Internal refractory repairs/replacement



Work Added to the Project

- 2006 Economizer Failure
 - Air/Water heat exchanger
 - Reuses FBI's heat
 - Heats two largest buildings
 - \$50,000 /month in heating oil savings



May 2007 Inspection

- May 2007 Annual Internal/External Inspection
- Previous Repair Recommendations Now Required Replacement
 - Economizer inlet and outlet ducts
 - Incinerator flue gas outlet
 - Economizer inlet and outlet plenums



2008 Design – Comprehensive Upgrade

- Project Started in 2005 – New Air Distribution/Minor Repairs
- Project Became in 2008 - Comprehensive Upgrade
- Other Upgrades Added
 - CEMS
 - Process oxygen meter
 - Venturi scrubber
- New Features Added
 - Recuperator bypass
 - 350 HP and 400 HP blower soft starts



2009 Construction - Need for Speed

- No Redundant Incinerator
- Off Site Sludge Hauling
 - ~ \$125,000/mo
- Loss of Economizer Use
 - ~ \$50,000/mo
- Increased Operating Costs
 - Polymer
 - Electrical
 - Labor
- Odor Issues
 - Employees
 - Neighbors



Construction – Phase 1 Economizer

- City Pre-Purchases the Economizer Summer of 2009
- Project Bid in September, awarded in December for \$3.21 million and work starts on day 1
- Incinerator Off Line 2 Months
- Economizer Installed



Phase 2 FBI Upgrade – Shutdown Findings

- Internal Inspection During Economizer Shut Down
- Significant Refractory Damage
- Full Refractory Replacement/Upgrade
 - Use of a mastic coating on the shell (acid condensation)
 - Use of castable insulation (reduce gas/ash migration behind the refractory).
 - Full roof replacement
 - Gas seal ring



Phase 2 – Upgrade Opportunity

- Chance to Replace/Upgrade Components – Do it right the first time
- Penetrations
 - 8 inch sand port
 - New 4 inch sand port
 - Manway
 - Sludge nozzles
 - Oil guns
 - Water guns
 - Thermocouples/sleeves



Need for Speed – Streamline CO Process

- Change Order Process (streamlined)
 - Collaborative request/CO development
 - Contractor's undocumented rough estimate time/\$
 - Go no-go decision with State involvement
 - Contractor procurement of materials/subs
 - CO work starts
- Subsequent Documentation Follow Up
 - Formal CO proposals
 - Proposal reviews
 - CO finalization
 - Formal contract CO development/reviews
 - Execution



Construction – Time Savers

- Typical Change Order Process
 - 2 – 8 weeks
 - ~ \$90k - \$350K per CO item In sludge disposal
- Double Shifts (Refractory Installation)
 - Saved 25 days ~ \$145K



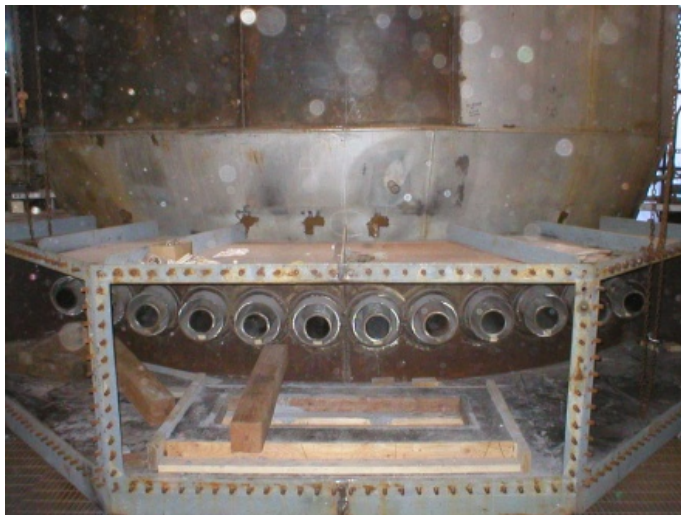
Construction Completed February 2011

- FBI Received a Full Upgrade with Many Improvements
- Incinerator Off Line for Eight Months
- Total Project Cost \$4.5 M
 - not including sludge hauling
 - Project payback < 3 years



Finished Product - February 2011

- New Tuyere Design
 - Reduce sand intrusion
 - Ability to blow out sand between burns
 - Address previous failures



Project Benefits

- Improved FBI Reliability and Reduced Maintenance
- Reduced Operational Costs
 - Less oil
 - Less polymer
 - Less electricity
 - Less labor
- Improved Heat Retainage (25%)
 - Longer down between burns
- Reduced Voltage Starters on 400 hp and 350 hp blowers
 - Elimination of electrical surges



Lessons Learned

- Plan Ahead
 - Upgrades and repair are Inevitable
 - Minimize need for minor repair to become major
 - Poor Conditions will Degrade Rapidly
- Regular Inspections
 - Increase frequency with age and as issues become more apparent



Lessons Learned (continued)

- Understand Full Impact of Additional Work
 - Cost of work items
 - Cost of sludge hauling
- Example
 - \$5K CO that takes two weeks
 - Real cost \$93K!
- Don't Under Estimate Costs
 - Sludge Hauling, oil use, polymer
 - 25% of project costs
 - Increase Construction Contingency!



Lessons Learned (continued)

- Successful Streamlined CO Approach Mirrors Design Build
- All parties must be reasonable, fair, and equitable
 - Owner
 - Engineer
 - Contractor
 - Funding agencies



Questions

Matthew.Formica@AECOM.com

AECOM, 701 Edgewater Dr., Wakefield, MA 01880

Fmcneill@manchesternh.gov

Manchester Environment of Environmental Protection,
300 Winston St, Manchester, NH 03103

