



**Public-Private Partnership Opportunities for Water and Water
Resource Recovery Utility Energy Projects**

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Presentation Overview

- **Project Landscape & Drivers**
 - WRF Project Overview
 - Energy Profiles at W&WRRUs and Role of P3s
 - Drivers of Energy Projects at W&WRRUs
 - Drivers of P3s and Structuring P3 Energy Projects
- **Utility Case Studies**
 - P3 Energy Project Case Studies Overview
 - Highlighted Case Studies
- **Best Practices for W&WRRUs P3 Energy Projects**
 - Energy Priorities and Utility Project Selection
 - Socializing the P3 Project and Making the Case
 - Approaching P3 Procurement and Selecting a Partner
 - Creating a Win-Win Partnership



Project Landscape & Drivers



WRF Project Overview

- **Assessment of P3 Energy Project Opportunities at W&WRRUs**
 - Conduct comprehensive literature review
 - Develop utility case studies
 - Produce final report with best practices and recommendations
- **Co-Funders**
 - Water Research Foundation (WRF) – project lead
 - Water Environment & Reuse Foundation
- **Research Team**
 - Bruce Tobey, PLDO
 - Emily Hammond, The George Washington University Law School
 - Sean McGinnis, The Horinko Group



Energy at WWUs and Role of P3s

- **~10%** of a community's annual budget spent on energy
 - **~30-40%** of total energy consumed by community's W&WRRUs
 - Collectively, W&WRRUs spend **~\$4 Billion** annually on energy, representing **~3-4%** of U.S. energy consumed
- **Efficiency** measures can reduce costs as much as **~25%** and on average **~10%**
- **Resource recovery** of biogas and other renewable electricity generation offer significant benefits

Stat Sources: U.S. DoE and U.S. EPA



Energy at WWUs and Role of P3s

- Energy projects can provide **cost savings**, introduce **new revenue** streams, provide **tax benefits**, and **reduce environmental footprint** of the facility
- Energy project attributes can be monetized to leverage the potential of **public-private partnerships (P3s)**
- **A P3 is** a contractual arrangement between the public and private sector, sharing skills, assets, risks, and rewards, to jointly deliver a service or a project.



Drivers of Energy Projects at W&WRRUs

- **Engineering Drivers** – save costs, upgrade equipment, enhance reliability, and manage resource streams
- **Environmental/Sustainability Drivers** – reduce emissions, build resilience, and enhance social responsibility
- **Federal Statutory and Regulatory Drivers** – investment and production tax credits, policies promoting renewable energy, market incentives
- **State Statutory and Regulatory Drivers** – provide grant funding, set standards, create secondary markets, authorize contracting mechanisms



Energy Project Landscape

- **Demand-Side Measures**
 - Energy efficiency upgrades, demand response
- **Combined Heat and Power**
 - Biogas resource recovery technologies and applications
- **Alternative Biogas Applications**
 - Treat and feed into natural gas pipeline
- **Non-Emitting Renewables**
 - Solar, wind, in-pipe and effluent hydro



Drivers of P3s

- **Access to Private Sector Expertise** – industry-wide best practices, advanced technologies, enhanced asset management
- **Efficiency Gains** – economies of scale, input optimization, integrated project delivery, cost and performance guarantees
- **Transfer of Risk** – regulatory, financial, managerial, performance and technology, project delivery, projections

Drivers of P3s

- **Value for Money** – project delivery evaluation, life cycle accounting of costs, risks and benefits, making the business case
- **Alternative Financing** – access to capital, avoid adding to public debt, leverage guaranteed cost savings
- **Accountability** – outcome-based contractual nature, performance specifications, transparency and oversight

Structuring P3 Energy Projects

- **Energy Savings Performance Contracts (ESPC)**
 - Combination of project financing-design-upgrading
 - Leverage guaranteed cost savings
- **Power Purchase Agreements (PPA)**
 - Guaranteed price on electricity
 - Dedicated revenue and tax credits attract investors
 - Often paired with, or functions as, a P3 Agreement

Structuring P3 Energy Projects

- **Alternative Delivery Model Based on Best Value**
 - Private partner assumes full responsibility of timely new project financing, delivery, operations, and performance
 - PPA is key contracting mechanism
 - DBOOT: Common P3 energy project model
- **Leases**
 - Permits use or access to assets
 - PPA is key contracting mechanism

Utility Case Studies

Case Study Focus and Goals

- **Focus: Five Case Studies**

- Rockland County Sewer District #1, NY – ESPC
- Village of Ridgewood, NJ – Solar and cogeneration PPA
- City of Thousand Oaks, CA – Solar and cogeneration PPA
- San Antonio Water System – Methane collection project
- Portland Water Bureau (OR) – In-line hydro project

- **Goals**

- Mix of water and water resource recovery utilities
- Variety of project types
- Geographic diversity
- Differing endpoints

City of Thousand Oaks, CA

- **Participants**

- Public

- Hill Canyon Wastewater Treatment Plant (HCTP) - acting through the City

- Private

- Biogas

- US Energy Services (assigned to Municipal Energy Systems, Inc. (MES))
 - CHP Clean Energy, LLC (via assignment from MES)

- Solar

- Solar Star TO, LLC

City of Thousand Oaks, CA

- **Objectives**

- Public

- Enhanced generation and beneficial re-use of methane
 - Development of potential solar energy
 - Energy self-sufficiency
 - Revenue stream/cost-avoided

- Private

- Return on investment

City of Thousand Oaks, CA

- **Process**

- Consensus-based up-front decision
- Procurement process, negotiation of contract, and governing body approval
- Follow-up procurements and contractual adjustments
- Project results

- **Project Results**

- Power infrastructure creation
- Power generation
- Financial impacts
 - HCTP
 - Savings on power costs due to terms of PPA
 - Private partners
 - Revenue from PPA sales
 - Assignment of clean energy grant proceeds
- Environmental benefits

Rockland County Sewer District #1, NY

- **Participants**

- Public – RCSD#1
- Private – Siemens Building Technologies, Inc.

- **Objectives**

- Public
 - Beneficial re-use of methane
 - Energy savings through facility rehab, retrofit, and efficiency measures
 - Financial savings
- Private
 - Sharing in savings from avoided costs

Rockland County Sewer District #1, NY

- **Process**

- RCSD#1 review of option and decision to proceed
- RFP, negotiation of contract, board approval, county executive approval and county legislature approval

- **Project Results**

- Contract award halted

Best Practices for W&WRRUs P3 Energy Projects

Best Practices for W&WRRU P3 Energy Projects

- **Energy Priorities and Utility Project Selection**
 - Developing energy priorities and creating an action plan
 - Thinking in terms of risk allocation
 - Project evaluation and Value for Money analysis
- **Socializing the P3 Project and Making the Case**
 - Role of the political champion
 - Engaging and educating *all* stakeholders
 - Importance of 100% commitment to P3 socialization process

Best Practices for W&WRRU P3 Energy Projects

- **Approaching P3 Procurement and Selecting a Partner**
 - Designing the procurement process
 - Reviewing project proposals
 - Selecting the optimal partner
- **Creating a Win-Win Partnership**
 - Crafting a win-win contract
 - Achieving project success

Conclusion

- As W&WRRUs continue to stress **sustainability, cost-cutting, revenue stream development, and enhanced reliability**, there is good reason to consider the **P3 tool** as a means to achieve energy project goals.



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