

# Public Exigency Wastewater Treatment Plant 2 Excess Sludge Management (District III)



Public Works & Utilities

May 17, 2022



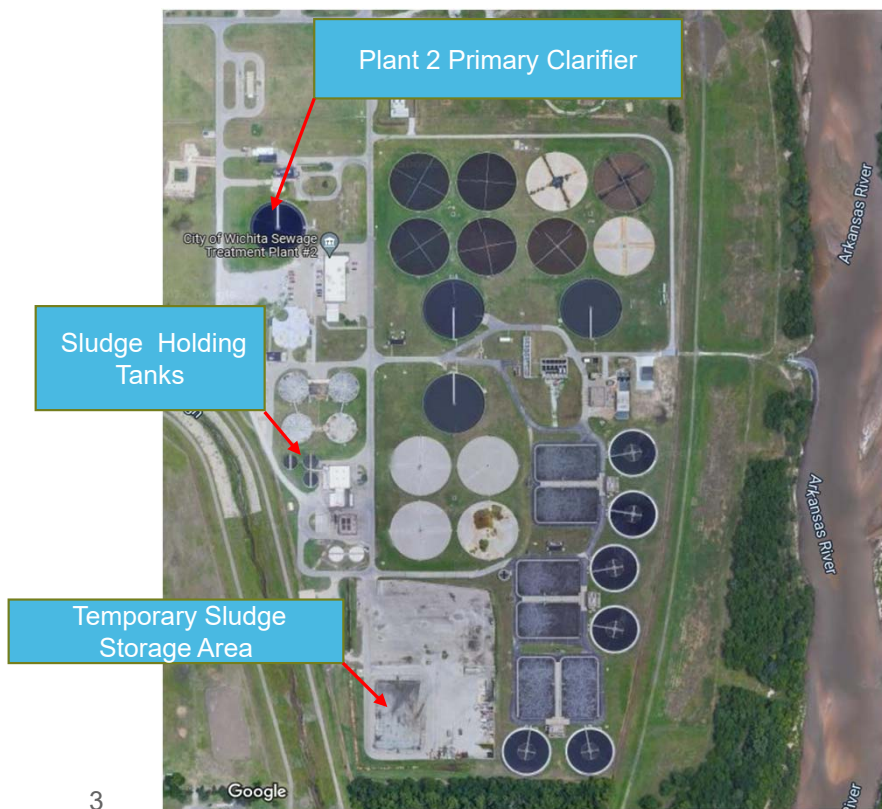
# Public Exigency



- City Code Section 2.64.020(c), “Public Exigency,” authorizes the City Manager to approve work in those instances where the urgency will not permit delay for a formal bid process.
- The City Manager authorized a public exigency to dispose of excess sludge and Wastewater Treatment Plant No. 2 on April 18, 2022.
- An accumulation of treated sludge in the primary clarifier was affecting the treatment process.
- Removal of the unwanted sludge had the potential to increase odors.



# Background



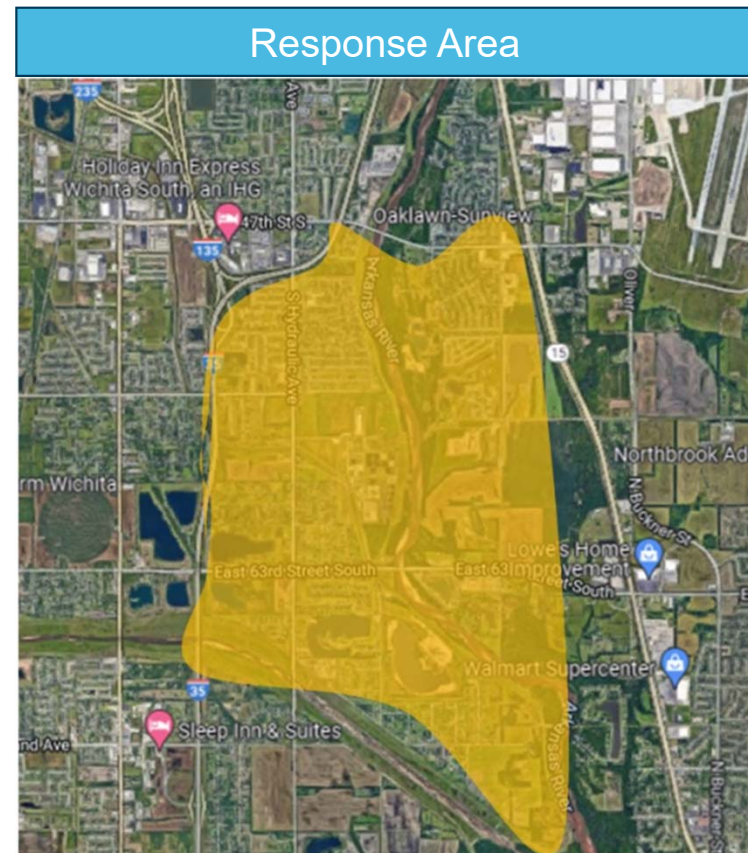
- Treated sludge was erroneously transferred from the west holding tank to the primary clarifier via a drain valve.
- Staff removed accumulated sludge from the primary clarifier to avoid a treatment upset.
- Staff staged the removed sludge in an open-air storage basin.
- Staff treated the material with odor suppressing chemicals throughout the operation.



# Response



- A press release was issued to notify the public of the potential for increased odors.
- Residents within a mile of the plant received direct notification from staff.
- The plant remained compliant with permit requirements.
- There were no impacts on public health or the environment as a result of the incident.





# Response



- Hodges Farm and Dredging, LLC was procured to load, haul, and land apply the staged sludge.
- Hodges had the ability to incorporate the material into the soil liquid form.
- Land application is the routine method of disposal and provides beneficial nutrients for crops.



Mixing odor suppressants



Staged material



Loading material for land application



# Response



Steps have been taken to prevent a reoccurrence.

- Appropriate personnel action including focused process education for the biosolids processing team
- New operating and supervisory protocols
- Enhanced monitoring and data review



# Financial Considerations



- The final cost for Hodges Farm and Dredging, LLC services was \$96,479.
- Funding to cover the cost is available in the Adopted 2022 Wastewater Treatment Division Operations and Maintenance budget.
- Sewer rates will not be impacted.



# Recommendation



Affirm the City Manager's public exigency approval per City Code, Section 2.64.020(c) for excess sludge treatment and disposal.





# Public Exigency Wastewater Treatment Plant 2 Excess Sludge Management (District III)



Public Works & Utilities

