



LCWSD Indian Land Wastewater Treatment Plant Odor Abatement Plan FAQs

Why did the Lancaster County Water and Sewer District create an Odor Abatement Plan?

On occasion, LCWSD has received complaints from nearby residents about odors coming from the Indian Land Wastewater Treatment Plant. While we have long used multiple processes to reduce odors, as we expand the plant to prepare for greater growth, LCWSD has crafted an updated odor abatement plan that will use the latest best practices and contingency methods to minimize odors.

Why can't LCWSD eliminate odors coming from the Indian Land Plant?

It is important to point out the Water Environment Federation states odors are "nearly impossible to prevent," especially coming from a larger wastewater plant like Indian Land. Therefore, LCWSD utilizes a multi-step management program of characterization, treatment, monitoring, dosing, and public involvement. Our vapor monitoring system has yielded the lowest results we have seen to date, which is a good indicator our recent efforts have been effective.

What will the Odor Abatement Plan use to minimize odors?

LCWSD's odor abatement plan will cut odor impacts several ways. It will use updated operation and maintenance practices, the latest treatment knowledge, setbacks for physical distance, and contingency plans to implement in case of changing conditions or customer complaints.

LCWSD utilizes Evoqua Water Technologies Full Service Odor Control program. The Evoqua program utilizes odor control technology to continuously monitor for odors and uses advanced dosing controllers to manage odors. LCWSD staff will continue to work to reduce odors by keeping key areas clean and unclogged; using lime and thoroughly cleaning the equipment that collects grit and other screened materials; using liners and tarps to capture smelly water; and regularly washing down our clarifiers.

Can changes be made to the Indian Land plant's treatment process to reduce odor?

As we upgrade the Indian Land plant to meet future regulations and growth, a more advanced, automated process has been proposed to achieve proper aeration rates and reduce the potential for overloading the plant's existing operations by bringing together essential treatment processes in a single tank, reducing the need for additional basins from which odor problems can occur. In addition, a consolidated, single-point treatment application will be implemented for the influent flows.

Will the public be able to provide any feedback on how well the plan is working?

The Odor Abatement Plan will be reviewed on a continual basis to determine if adjustments are needed. Because conditions can change, LCWSD has developed contingency plans that will chart customer feedback, monitor site-specific conditions, and use special equipment to handle difficult, temporary conditions.

Customer utilization of the "Odor Information Summary" form on our website will help us track site-specific conditions. Upon review, staff can monitor conditions such as wind direction, vapor monitoring, and other indicators to validate and document whether complaints are connected to LCWSD's treatment facility or to other industry or construction activities in the area, as described in recent media reports.

How can I get more information about the Odor Abatement Plan?

LCWSD will maintain a page on our website - www.lcwasd.org - dedicated to providing more information about our Indian Land Wastewater Treatment Plan Odor Abatement Plan. In addition to being able to review the full Plan, users also find an informational brochure to help them understand our efforts to reduce odors.