

Draft Alternatives - Oldham County Environmental Authority, Regional Facility Plan, Crestwood Planning Area

Public Hearing - August 27, 2012

In 2001, Oldham County Environmental Authority (OCEA) and the Louisville and Jefferson County Metropolitan Sewer District (MSD) reviewed several alternatives for providing wastewater collection and treatment for existing and future customers in the Crestwood Planning Area and recommended a plan to regionalize treatment at MSD's Hite Creek Water Quality Treatment Center (WQTC).

Prior to implementing this plan, MSD entered into a Consent Order with the USEPA that required MSD to eliminate existing package type treatment plants in the Prospect and Hunting Creek areas and convey and treat sewage from those facilities at the Hite Creek WQTC. Treating these sewage flows has eliminated excess capacity at the Hite Creek WQTC and would require an expansion of the facility to receive and treat sewage flow from the Crestwood Planning Area.

Expansion of the MSD's Hite Creek WQTC has changed the implementation schedule, assumptions and costs of this alternative. Due to these changes, OCEA Board of Directors has requested staff to develop and evaluate alternatives for providing wastewater service in the Crestwood Planning Area. The alternatives that have been selected for development and analysis are:

1. **New Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant Alternative:** Decommission the Orchard Grass and Willow Creek WWTPs and convey the wastewater to a new regional treatment plant, owned and operated by OCEA. This alternative would require the construction of a new pump station at the Orchard Grass WWTP, extension of the existing Willow Creek force main to a new regional WWTP site and construction of an effluent main to a discharge point on Hite Creek. The existing tanks at the Orchard Grass and Willow Creek WWTP maybe renovated and used for wet weather storage in this alternative.
2. **MSD Hite Creek Water Quality Treatment Center:** Decommission the Orchard Grass and Willow Creek WWTPs and convey the wastewater to the Hite Creek WQTC owned and operated by MSD. This alternative would require the construction of a new pump station at the Orchard Grass WWTP, extension of the existing Willow Creek force main to the existing Hite Creek WQTC. MSD would provide treatment and the effluent would be discharged to Hite Creek through MSD's existing outfall. The existing tanks at the Orchard Grass and Willow Creek WWTP maybe renovated and used for wet weather storage in this alternative.
3. **Renovate and Expand Existing Orchard Grass and Willow Creek Wastewater Treatment Plants Alternative:** The existing Orchard Grass and Willow Creek WWTPs have reached their useful life and the construction of new treatment facilities will be

required to provide treatment capacity throughout the planning period. The existing tanks maybe renovated and used for wet weather storage in this alternative. Expansion of the facilities to treat future flows to accommodate growth in the planning areas will be based on maintaining the existing mass loadings at the existing discharge locations.

4. No Action Alternative: This alternative assumes that OCEA will not maintain, renovate or replace the existing wastewater treatment systems. The systems would eventually fail and the customers and new developments in the planning area would be required to construct individual treatment systems or store the wastewater for hauling by contract septic haulers for treatment and disposal.

Division of Water Regional Facility Plan Requirements

The objective of the RFP is to provide a long-range plan for providing sanitary sewer service in the Crestwood Planning Area that meet both the Kentucky Division of Water (DOW) and OCEA goals and objectives.

The development and submittal of a Regional Facility Plan (RFP) is required by the DOW under Kentucky Administrative Regulations (KAR), Title 401, as defined in regulation section 401 KAR 5:006. DOW has found it necessary to require the development of a RFP to address water quality and public health concerns. This regulation requires a RFP to be developed and submitted if:

- (a) A new wastewater treatment facility is proposed for construction within the planning area;
- (b) An existing regional planning agency proposes to expand the average daily design capacity of an existing wastewater treatment facility by more than thirty (30) percent; or
- (c) The equivalent population served by an existing wastewater collection system or a system with a Kentucky Inter-System Operating Permit is proposed for expansion by more than thirty (30) percent of the population served in the previously approved regional facility plan.
- (d) The date of the last approved regional planning is more than 10 years. Regional Planning agencies must submit either an Asset Inventory Report or an updated Regional Facility Plan every 10 years.

OCEA is proceeding with the development of an updated RFP that meets DOW requirements since several of the alternatives being considered in the planning area will qualify under items (a) and (b) and the DOW has requested OCEA develop and submit either an updated RFP or Asset Inventory Report for all planning area since the last approved RFP is 10 years old.

Objectives of the Regional Facility Plan

OCEA has established objectives that correspond to goals of the objectives listed in DOW's, Regional Facility Plan Guidance Document, 2010. The goals and objectives that will shape the development of alternatives and recommended implementation plan are listed below:

- Provides a 20-year plan that meets the needs of the planning area in a cost-effective manner that limits current and future impacts to utility rates.
- Meets established environmental standards and regulations.
- Provides flexibility to serve existing and future needs beyond the planning period.
- Provides a process that allows Oldham County representation related to future direction of the utility and rates.
- Develops a regional approach for wastewater services.
- Has the flexibility to adapt to changes in DOW regulation that may require the plant effluent to be discharged directly to the Ohio River.
- Minimizes financial, legal and administrative barriers that may prevent the complete and timely implementation of the plan objectives.

Public Hearing

The Oldham County Environmental Authority (OCEA), 700 West Jefferson Street, Lagrange, KY 40031 is beginning the development of a Regional Facility Plans (RFP) containing wastewater requirements for collection and treatment and its costs, for the Crestwood Planning Area. Several package type wastewater treatment plants that include the Willow Creek and Orchard Grass wastewater treatment plants currently serve this planning area.

Interested citizens may obtain further information and view the boundaries of the planning area and locations of the existing wastewater treatment plants at the OCEA and Kentucky Division of Water websites <http://www.oldhamcountysewer.com/> or by calling OCEA Facility Plan, Project Manager Ed Basquill at 502-225-9477, between the hours of 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday thru Friday.

A public hearing will be held on August 27, 2012 at 6:00 p.m. at the OCEA office 700 West Jefferson Street, Lagrange, KY 40031. The purpose of the hearing is to review the collection and treatment alternatives that will be evaluated to provide wastewater collection and treatment in the Crestwood Planning Areas. The existing treatment plants have been in service for 30 to 40 years and need to be replaced or rehabilitated to provide treatment for existing and future capacity. A second public hearing will be held after development, analysis and the selected alternative is recommended for consideration and approval by OCEA's Board.

The public is encouraged to attend this meeting and shall have a right to comment on the alternatives and RFP development for a period of 30 days from the date of publication of this notice by writing to the above address or before the termination of the hearing whichever is later. A longer comment period may be requested in writing. Anyone who believes any of the collection and treatment alternatives being considered is inappropriate, inaccurate, incomplete or otherwise not in the best interest of the public and environment must raise all reasonable issues and submit all reasonable arguments, facts and comments with supporting documents to the above give contact person.